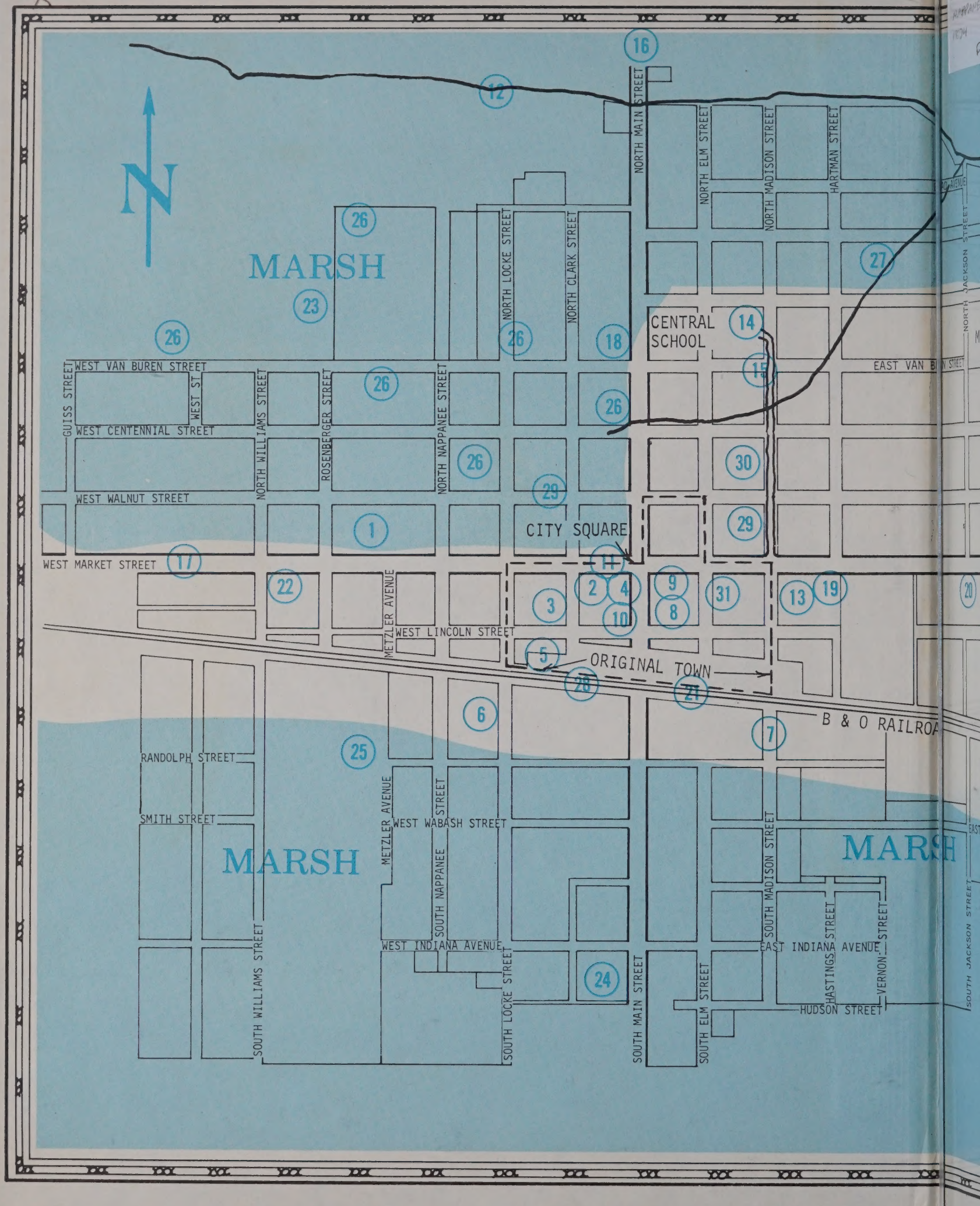
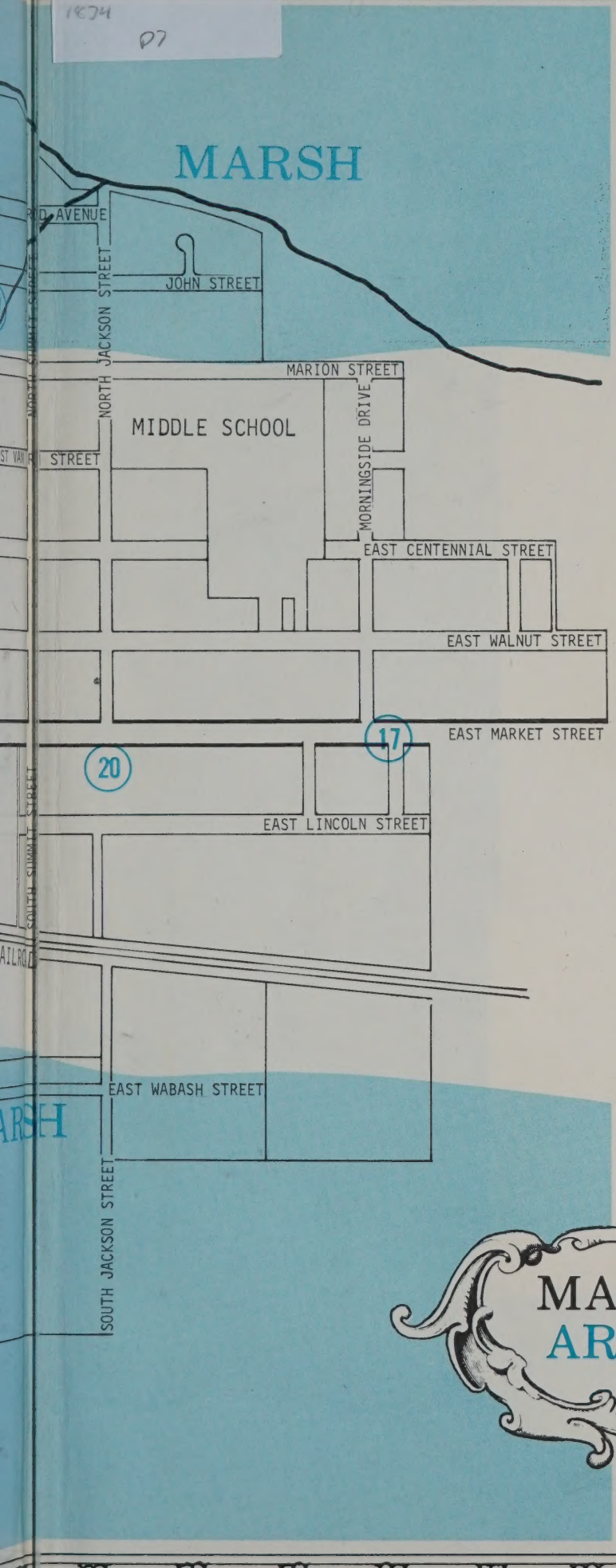
They called it NAPPANEE

A History 1874 · 1974


MARSH
CENTRAL SCHOOL
CITY SQUARE
ORIGINAL TOWN
B & O RAILROA
MARSH
MARSH
NORTH MAIN STREET
NORTH ELM STREET
NORTH MADISON STREET
HARTMAN STREET
NORTH JACKSON STREET
NORTH LOCKE STREET
NORTH CLARK STREET
WEST VAN BUREN STREET
EAST VAN BU
GUISS STREET
WEST ST
WEST CENTENNIAL STREET
NORTH WILLIAMS STREET
ROSENBERGER STREET
NORTH NAPPANEE STREET
WEST WALNUT STREET
WEST MARKET STREET
METZLER AVENUE
WEST LINCOLN STREET
RANDOLPH STREET
SMITH STREET
METZLER AVENUE
WEST WABASH STREET
SOUTH NAPPANEE STREET
SOUTH WILLIAMS STREET
WEST INDIANA AVENUE
SOUTH LOCKE STREET
SOUTH MADISON STREET
EAST INDIANA AVENUE
HASTINGS STREET
VERNON STREET
HUDSON STREET
SOUTH MAIN STREET
SOUTH ELM STREET
SOUTH JACKSON STREET
EAST
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
29
30
31

HISTORY
NAPPANEE
1874
D7



1. LOG CABIN (Jacob Miller)
2. LOG HOUSE (Daniel Metzler)
3. LOG BARN (Daniel Metzler)
4. BROOM SHOP, SHOE SHOP (Daniel Metzler)
5. SWIMMING HOLE
6. SUGAR CAMP
7. HUCKLEBERRY MARSH
8. PRICKLY ASH & BLACKBERRY PATCH
9. DEADENING
10. PUMP (In Front of G. & N. Grocery)
11. PUMP (Side of Johnson Bldg.)
12. OPEN DITCH
13. MELLINGER/MEYERS SAWMILL (Methodist Church)
14. FRAME HOUSE (Henry Stahly)
15. STAHLY LANE
16. WAGON ROAD NORTH (Stops at Square)
17. WAGON ROAD EAST WEST
18. FRAME SCHOOL HOUSE (1860-68)
19. FRAME HOUSE (Anna DeFrees)
20. LOG HOUSE (South of Catholic Church)
21. EBY PRIVATE DEPOT
22. HOUSE (C. J. Yoder) (1874 Plat)
23. PONDS
24. DESERTED LOG HOUSE USED BY HUNTERS
25. CEMETERY (Yoder Family)
26. FROG POND
27. OPEN DITCH
28. SWAMP
29. WHEAT FIELD
30. CLOVER FIELD
31. GARDEN enclosed by PICKET FENCE

MAP OF NAPPANEE
AREA BEFORE 1874

977.281
WEY Weygand, James L.
They called it Nappanee

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY
AUBURN, INDIANA
925-2414

1. Books may be kept two weeks and may be renewed for the same period.

2. A fine will be charged on each book which is not returned according to the above rule. No book will be issued to any person incurring an excessive fine until it has been paid.

3. All injuries to books beyond reasonable wear and all losses shall be made good to the satisfaction of the Librarian.

4. Each borrower is held responsible for all materials drawn on his card and for all fines accruing on the same.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

OTIS R. BOWEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF NAPPANEE, INDIANA:

As Nappanee marks its first hundred years of achievement, it is well for all of us to reflect on the community spirit and unity of purpose which is so essential to the maintenance of quality living in Hoosier cities and towns.

That civic spirit can insure a worthwhile future for this fine Indiana city. I encourage all Nappanee citizens to take on added initiative and constructive endeavor to preserve and promote the unique characteristics of small-city living.

You have my heartiest best wishes for a successful centennial observance.

Kindest personal regards,

Otis R. Bowen

Otis R. Bowen, M.D.
Governor

ORB:alw

City of Nappanee

Nappanee, Indiana 46550

JAMES E. NEWCOMER
Mayor

PHONE
773-4112

Dear Nappanee Citizens and Visitors:

We are celebrating 100 years of progress in Nappanee. Our City has grown in those 100 years from a few buildings moved into Nappanee from Locke, to be close to the B & O Railroad, into a progressive, prosperous City of over 4000 citizens. Our history has been rich with fine people and good businesses. It now has a stable ecomony, good shopping areas, fine industries, good schools, well developed parks, and many facilities that are above average for a City of our size. This has come about because of Nappanee's best commodity, fine citizens. I am proud to be Mayor of Nappanee during this Centennial year of 1974.

I want to extend my most hearty congratulations to Nappanee Citizens, young and old, and my most sincere welcome to visitors to Nappanee. I hope that citizens and visitors alike will have a wonderful time during this once in a lifetime celebration.

Sincerely yours,

James E. Newcomer

James E. Newcomer
Mayor

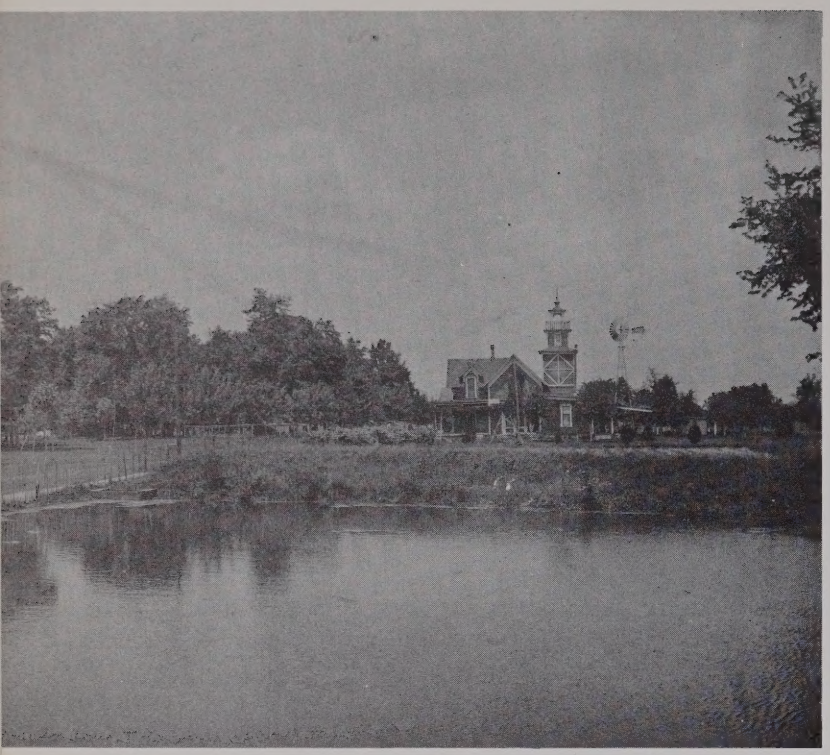
A WORD

For a complete history of Nappanee, a thousand pages would hardly be adequate. With but one hundred pages, more has been omitted than included; this is regretted. For those wishing further information on any local subject, there is an expanded version of this book, in typescript, in the Historical Room of the Public Library. Also available is a card file, undertaken with the preparation of this book, opening the weekly newspapers (including out-of-town papers 1870-79), to almost every subject for the period 1872-1933. There are plans to continue it to the present day, when time permits.

Larger pictures, and many more, would have been preferred as well. In the interests of presenting as many as possible in the limited space available, smaller ones have been used. They, and many more, can be examined in the Historical Room.

In the text, recollections and memories — tricky at best — served primarily as guides and clues to be verified and expanded by *contemporary written records*. Rather than encumber this book with those source references, they have been reserved for the typescript cited earlier, which can be examined at leisure in the Historical Room of the Public Library.

Organizations, Churches, and Schools have been researched and written by Esther Metzler; all other sections have been written and researched by James L. Weygand. To all who provided information, pictures and data, their thanks are extended.



(Above) FAHLSTROM POND, 1885. *(Looking north from the corner of today's VanBuren and Nappanee Streets). In the background is the Frevert house, still there, tho minus the tower and windmill. To the left in the picture is Frevert Grove, which is today the Community Park. In the early days the whole area west of Main Street and north of Market was covered with ponds. Whether the above is one of those natural ones, or a man-made affair is not known with certainty. From the above pond came hundreds of tons of natural ice, stored in ice houses for use thru the summer. Water taken from them by bucket brigades also saved many a house from the ravages of fire.*

(Below) FLORENCE PARK. *Just north of town (Northwoods area) druggist J. S. Walters in 1903 stocked his Florence Buffalo and Deer Park. Roaming the fenced acres were two buffalos (at one time three), nine deer, two elk and other wild animals. While a buffalo calf was born there in May 1911, the bull buffalo died the following January. On Sundays and holidays hundreds of townsmen sought the shade of the grove, and communion with the animals. Under mysterious circumstances the last of the buffalo died several years later.*

OF ALL Elkhart County, the Nappanee area was the least desirable. While dense forests covered the whole county, the northern half had rivers. And open spaces or prairies where the grass grew belly high to a horse. And needed only to be turned by the plow for bountiful crops of corn or wheat or oats. Elkhart Prairie, Two-Mile Plain, Pleasant Plain — all near Elkhart or Goshen.

In the southern half there were only dense woods and swamps. No rivers. No plains. Just woods, and woods — beech, maple, walnut, hickory, poplar, oak, cherry. Where Elkhart County and Kosciusko County met, and stretching southward, was the nothingness of the tamarack marsh. Low-lying land almost perpetually under water, in which only the tamarack thrived.

Lacking prairies and rivers, the Nappanee area had one claim to fame: what is now the south walk of Market Street marked the watershed of the river systems. In theory at least, rain that fell south of Market Street drained into the Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi, and into the Gulf of Mexico. While rain that fell north of Market Street drained into rivers that emptied their waters into the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence and the Atlantic.

The Earliest Inhabitants

Even to the earliest inhabitants, the Mound Builders, the Nappanee area was not particularly inviting. Unexplained elevations, thought to have been left by them, are all in the north; none is very near here. Of the earliest known inhabitants, the Miami Indians were here for a century, perhaps two, until they were pushed out by the Pottawattamis drifting down from Green Bay, Wisconsin about 1700. When the first white settlers arrived on the Elkhart-Goshen prairies about 1830 there were a number of villages of Pottawattamis on the Elkhart River at Elkhart, Goshen, Waterford. And in Kosciusko County at Monoquet between Leesburg and Warsaw.

That there were Indians in the Nappanee area is evident from the abundance of arrows and artifacts found in the countryside. J. O. Kantz had an extensive collection, most found nearby. And Douglas Price has a large number of them, most found by his father on the Price farm near here; they are now on exhibit in the Library Historical Room.

About the only reminder of Indians near here is the Plymouth-Goshen Road which crosses Highway 19 North; it presumably follows the course of an old Indian trail. Ironically, while Nappanee is an Indian-sounding word, and has its origins in Indian culture, it did not come from the Miamis or Pottawattamis, or any other Indians of this area as will be seen.

The Animal World

If the writers of massive county histories can be believed, mastodon once roamed this area in the distant past. Bones assumed to be from such giants have been unearthed not far from here. Bison and bear too once were here. But the former were gone before the first white settlers. And the bear shortly after. Tho as late as 1908 a brown bear was seen in this general area.

This page sponsored by **METZLER SHOE COMPANY**
(1924-1974) Our 50th Year

THE SITE

Smaller game was still plentiful when the settlers arrived. In the 1860s David Burkholder, who lived between here and Locke, recalled deer in abundance. And foxes and wolves in over supply. Lots of wild turkeys, pheasants. Raccoons and otter. Levi Ulery killed over 500 deer in Elkhart County; as many as four in one day in the 1860s. And he recalled quail and "minx" (mink). All the area west of Main and north of Market was covered with ponds that were fished. As late as 1879 a large pike was caught in one of them.

Natural Resources

While mineral deposits have never been a large consideration, a 1¾ pound chunk of pure copper was found in 1885 in the meadow of Henry Stahly just north of town. An oil find, especially in the marsh, has always been considered a possibility by many. With $3,000 capital, a company was formed in 1887 to put down a well. As the *Nappanee News* reasoned then: "The rock strata generally conforms to the surface of the earth. Gas is always found in the cones or ridges of the rocks. Nappanee stands on the water shed of creation, consequently there is gas under Nappanee."

While nothing came of it, gas *was* discovered accidentally while sinking a tubular well in 1888 three miles south of town. At a depth of forty-three feet a strong flow of gas was struck in "quantities sufficiently strong, from all appearances, to furnish fuel and light in great quantities. The well was pushed down past the gas belt which at once stopped the flow. The well was sunk to 72 feet and water raised some eight inches from the surface."

Incidentally, hydrologists tell us there is an underground river the width of the St. Joe not far from us, flowing southward from Goshen to Milford and beyond.

To the settlers, the natural resource was the ground, not what was beneath. They were farmers; those who had a choice settled on the northern prairies. As they filled, newcomers moved southward. Late arrivals came to the Nappanee area. Daniel Metzler in 1861. And Henry Culp, Christian Stahly, Christian P. Houshour, Elias Rupert.

The Area in 1872

By 1870 there were seven sets of farm buildings on what is now Nappanee. Three log cabins and four frame houses. (Two were still here in 1939, and probably yet, at 458 North Madison, and 801 West Walnut.) There were perhaps 35 to 40 people in what is now Nappanee.

Some of their land had been cleared for crops. The Dietrich Building site was a deadening where the trees had been killed by girdling; for the most part it was a blackberry patch. Across Main Street to the west was Daniel Metzler's log cabin and log barn; a bit south of that complex, in front of G&N was Metzler's pump.

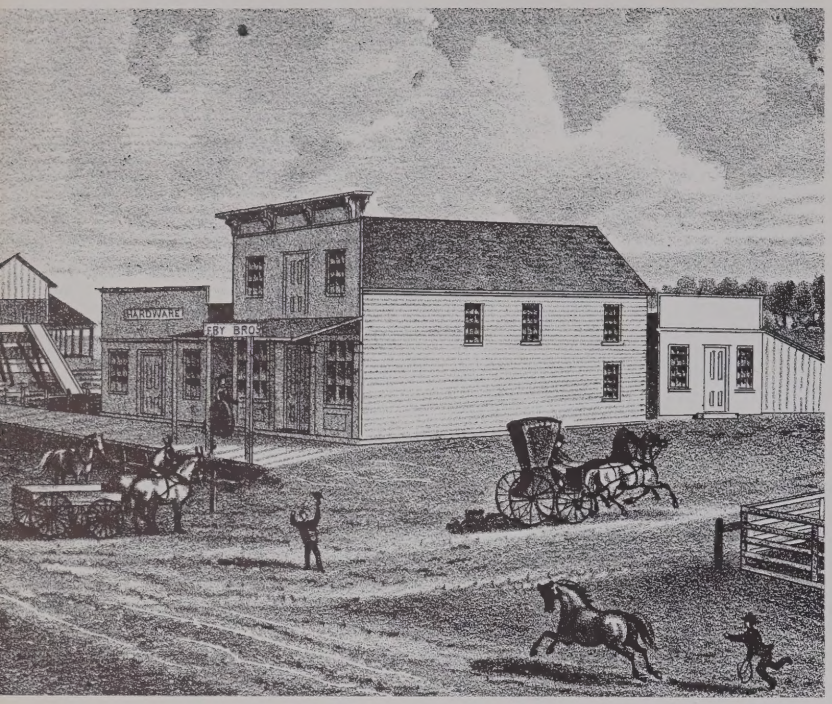
Mutschler Brothers Company site was a huckleberry marsh. Forgotten even then was a cemetery at the end of West Randolph; the newest gravestone recorded an 1857 death. Just north of today's depot was a swimming hole; across the tracks south was another fishing hole. The whole area south of the B&O tracks was considered of no account; even into the 1890s it was a commons for grazing of cattle.

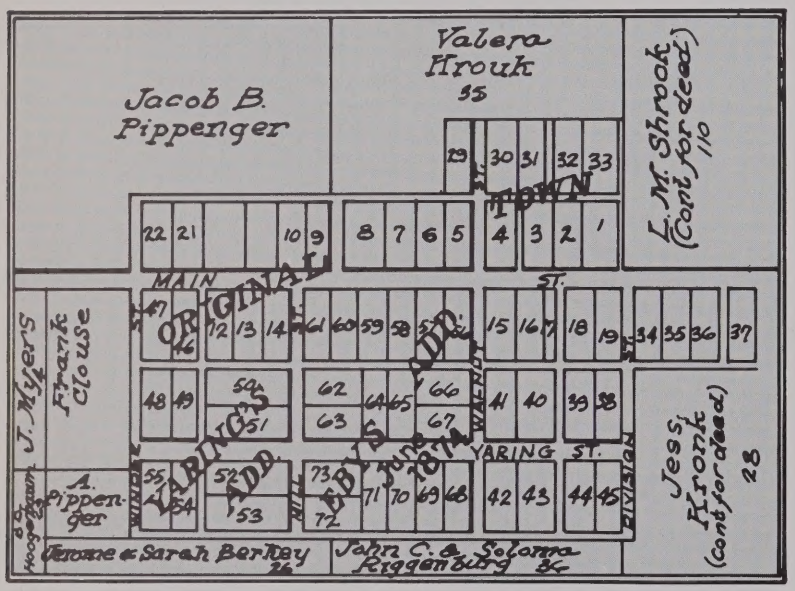
Market Street was an east-west wagon road. Leading north from the square toward Locke was another wagon road (North Main Street); there was no South Main Street. Neither was much to write home about, as they were mere paths thru the woods and swamps, interrupted by many a corduroy "bridge" — logs laid crosswise over soft ground — twixt here and there. Roads were built by cutting down the underbrush in their path and throwing it on the roadbed. As ditches were dug along each side, the mud was thrown onto the brush to make it possible for teams to haul in more dirt. Such roads quickly washed away in rainy weather, and were often under water.

Aside from farming the only business activity was Daniel Metzler's broom shop in his log cabin; he was also a shoemaker. Commercial activity started on the town site in 1873 when J. C. Mellinger and Frank Myers, both of Locke, set up a sawmill behind the present-day Methodist Church.

That then was the scene in 1872-73 when word came that the B&O was moving westward to Chicago, that this area would be brought nearer the market for its products.

This page sponsored by MILLER MFG. CORPORATION; EDDIE'S LEASING CO.





(Above) MAIN STREET, LOCKE, 1873. *As pictured in Higgins, Belden* Historical Atlas of Elkhart County, *1874. On the corner is the General Store and Hardware complex of the brothers Eby, George and Henry.*

(Below) PLAT OF LOCKE, June 1874. *Not so wisely, Eby's Addition was laid out in June 1874, just a few months before Nappanee was platted. On the Court House original plat the road between lots 8 and 9 is labeled Poplar Street.*

LOCKE

WHILE we know the reasons for Locke's rapid decline, we've no idea what peculiar combination of circumstances accounted for its rise in the first place. The site had no particular advantage of note. There was no railroad, no crossing of trade routes, nor any body of water or stream.

When the first settlers came to Locke Township in 1836 — Samuel Lockwood, for whom the township is said to have been named; and ten days later, Abner Hibray and John Pitts — they chose the northern portions. Lockwood settled in section 10, Hibray and Pitts in section 1. Those who followed settled in the same general area, quite some distance from the Locke Town site. The earliest school house is thought to have been in section 14; as was the first post office, at Five Points, again some distance northwest of the Locke Town site.

There are only two clues to Locke Town's beginnings. First: David Burkholder, who settled on two hundred acres one mile south of Locke in 1863 wrote, in later years, that even then the site was called Wisler Town. Suggesting at least there was already a small settlement or cluster of homes. Second: in 1865, it is said, a sawmill was started there.

Locke Platted in 1867

Locke Town — it is termed "town" rather than "village" in the original plat — was laid out December 20, 1867, by ten "proprietors": George Eby, M. Moreland, S. Winder, B. & E. Yarian, D. Wolfe, O. Lake, C. Zelley (or perhaps, Kelley), J. S. Wisler, Martin Robison.

There were forty-seven lots laid out along six streets. Main Street, running east and west. Division, Walnut, Mill, Poplar, and Winder streets running north and south. Yaring Addition, sometime between 1865-72 added another eight lots. And in June 1874 Eby's Addition added eighteen more.

Locke Town in 1873

In 1873 Locke was described as follows: Three dry goods stores; one drug store; one grocery store; one hardware store; one tin shop; one furniture store; two shoe shops; two sawmills; one shingle-mill; one wagon-making shop; one steam grist and flouring mill; three blacksmith shops; about 40 dwellings; one hotel; one public school-house; one church; three physicians. Its 1870 official population was 167, all white (132 native born, 35 foreign born). By 1873 its estimated population was about 200.

This page sponsored by **McCORMICK MOTORS, INC.; SUPERSWEET FARM SERVICE; ACCENT PHOTOGRAPHY; UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF INDIANA**

THE B&O

IN 1869 Chicago was served by only one eastern railroad. John W. Garrett, President of the Baltimore & Ohio proposed that his be the second.

He'd reached Pittsburgh. And when he bought the Central Ohio Railroad he reached Sandusky, Ohio as well. He therefore had a choice of two routes westward. From Pittsburgh, which he favored, but where the immediate rough terrain was anything but encouraging, complicated further because both banks of the Ohio River — the logical low grade route — had already been taken by competitors. Or from the Sandusky line across the comparatively level expanse of Ohio and Indiana.

He chose the latter.

From Chicago Junction (later Willard) on the Sandusky line he struck out westward in the early 1870s. His objective was Chicago; what lay between were miles to span with iron rails. His route therefore was almost a beeline. There were few towns of consequence anyway; and what little business there might be was already hotly contested for. Near here his route passed squarely between two established towns, Milford and New Paris, missing both with ease. Then across the extreme south portion of Locke and Union townships.

Given his choice, he would probably as well have passed up the Nappanee area too. While the land was relatively flat, it was marsh, and soggy; one could sink thru to China with ease. Which explains perhaps why this section between Milford Crossing and Bremen was one of the last to be completed.

B&O Surveyors Reach Nappanee

In this area the road's progress can be reconstructed partially from a number of entries in the diary of Levi Ulery, who had 160 acres three miles east of Nappanee.

Preliminary work was under way here in 1872. A prosaic entry dated October 24 in his diary reads: "Today the B&O surveyors passed thru my farm." Interestingly, this news was appended to another note which appeared of more import at the time. "We attended the communion at Yellow Creek; stayed all night with Jacob Millers."

And a second entry, dated July 7, 1873: "I finished taking all my timber off of the B&O right of way."

And a third, dated September 11, 1873: "We made the writings, and I sold a strip of land to the B&O railroad company for $240."

Meanwhile, from Fostoria, Ohio, the laying of tracks had already started on July 22, 1873. And despite a bitter winter 1873-74 the work was pushed westward. By spring, 1874, the purchase of right-of-way in this immediate area was resumed with vigor.

On April 16, Daniel and Barbara Metzler sold to the Baltimore, Pittsburgh & Chicago Railroad, for $120, a strip 100 feet wide (50 feet on either side of the center of the roadway as it was then located). "Company to fence their roadway within a reasonable time after completion of the road," as the deed read. With or without mention of a fence, almost identical deals were made in rapid order with other farmers. Many deeds, however, did commit the railroad "to make a farm crossing."

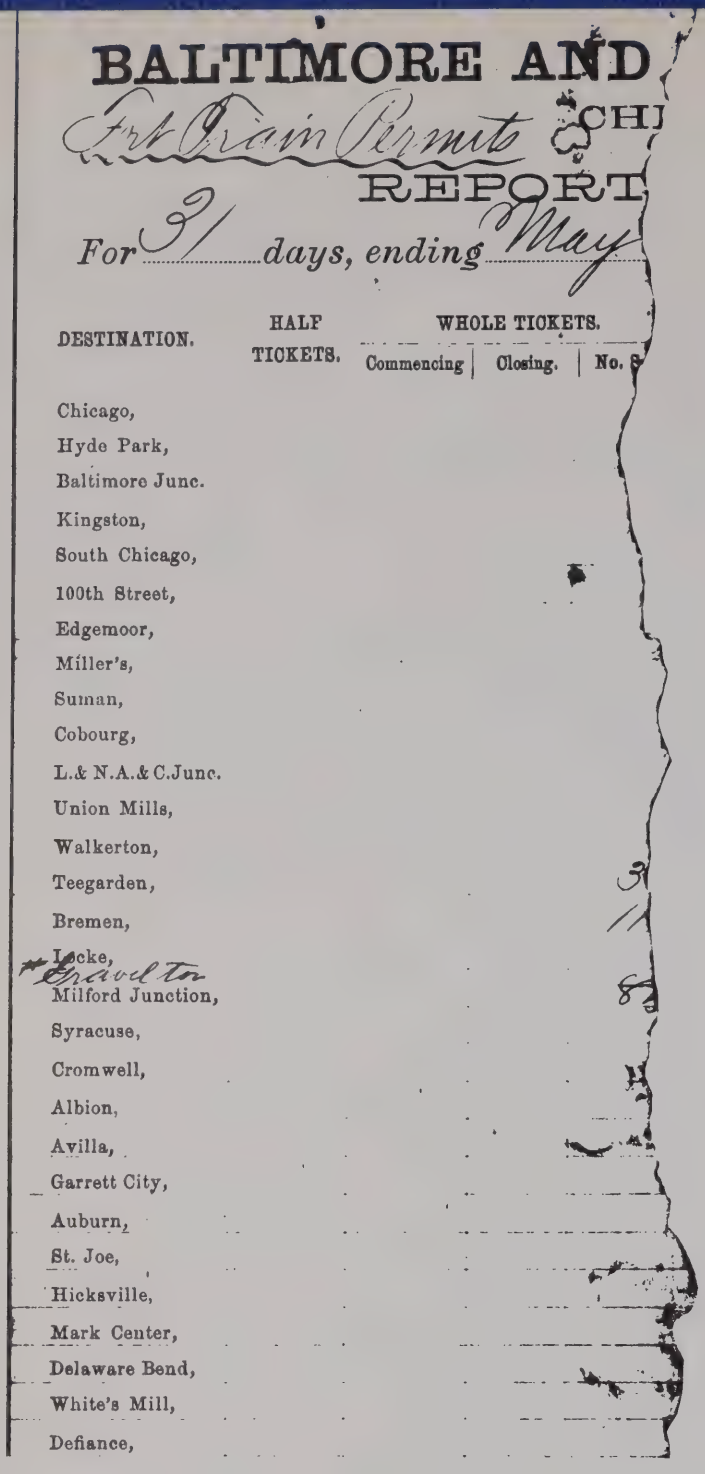
Track laying moved nearer the area, still for the most part wilderness, with dense wooded stretches, and undergrowth, and low lying areas of swamps and cattails.

In the acres now covered by Nappanee there were seven or eight sets of farm buildings with no more than 30 to 40 people. Chauncey Miller was one of them. His father's farmhouse stood at about 401 West Market Street today. He was a boy then, as the railroad pushed nearer and nearer. In later years he recalled riding with his older brother to the tamarack marsh south of town for wagon loads of railroad ties.

They were cut, loaded on carts, and pushed along a railroad-like platform out to a spongy path loosely termed a wagon road. There they were put on wagons and hauled to the railroad site, where one W. A. Porter bought them for the B&O. Miller vividly recalled the latter swinging a heavy hammer which indelibly marked each tie to indicate the hauler.

John Metzler was a boy here too at the time; his father's log cabin stood near the site of today's Shell Station. In 1930 he recalled some of the construction men that boarded with his father many years before.

"They were mostly Irish and Swedes," wrote Metzler in the *Advance News* of January 2, 1930, "and one Sunday one of the Swedes took a walk out north. In a short time he returned very much excited and said to father, 'I toik a valk oud this way and a thing with a big bushy tail run over the road and up a tree, and bejasus



BALTIMORE AND
Ft Train Permits CHI
REPORT
For 31 days, ending May

DESTINATION.	HALF TICKETS.	WHOLE TICKETS. Commencing	Closing.	No. S
Chicago,				
Hyde Park,				
Baltimore Junc.				
Kingston,				
South Chicago,				
100th Street,				
Edgemoor,				
Miller's,				
Suman,				
Cobourg,				
L.& N.A.& C.Junc.				
Union Mills,				
Walkerton,				
Teegarden,				
Bremen,				
Locke,				
Gravel to Milford Junction,				
Syracuse,				
Cromwell,				
Albion,				
Avilla,				
Garrett City,				
Auburn,				
St. Joe,				
Hicksville,				
Mark Center,				
Delaware Bend,				
White's Mill,				
Defiance,				

That the Eby private depot-passenger house of 1874-75 was officially Locke (and not Nappanee) to the B&O, for at least a few months to a year, is evident from this List of Stations on the Chicago Division, on a B&O printed "Report of Tickets Sold" dated "For 31 days ending May 1876" (on the reverse). The fragment was found in the rafters of the old 1874-75 depot, still in use as a tool shed and wood storage on a farm a mile south and several miles west of Nappanee.

supposes je it was a snake.' It was a gray squirrel he had seen."

Work moved rapidly thru the summer. Exactly when the single track line of iron rails (steel rails were not laid thru town till 1882) reached Nappanee is not known. Tho probably toward the end of September, judging from a news item in the *Wakarusa Sun* of August 27, 1874: "The engine on the B&O has come within six miles of Locke on the east and within 8 miles on the west and in a *few weeks* (the italics are mine) the road will be completed between Milford Crossing and Bremen. There is a strong force at work along the line and the road is being rapidly brought to completion."

It has been debated by old timers whether the B&O was built from east to west, from west to east, or from both ends (from Fostoria and Chicago), meeting somewhere in the middle. While not even B&O records are very clear about this, the foregoing news item seems to indicate the latter. There is additional reason for believing the road was built from each end.

In January 1930, in a letter to the *Advance News*, W. H. Hamman, a long-time resident of Bremen, remembered when the workmen progressed as far as Bremen *from the west* (again my italics); on the first Sunday thereafter he and other Bremen residents boarded a train traveling westward to Walkerton, returning the same evening.

Both the *Wakarusa Sun* report and the Hamman recollection suggest the actual meeting of the rails at some point near Nappanee. Probably a bit west of town, judging from a recollection of David Metzler, who also lived here before there was a town. "The Arrival of the First Train," wrote Metzler in the *Advance News* in May 1937. "It was a work train of course making its way from the east. Trains in this neck of the woods had been heard of, but not heard or seen by a good many youngsters and some of the old folks. Special efforts were made to see it, and wonder of wonders, it had a 'house on behind' as the astonished boy said when he saw the caboose."

Metzler's brother Jonas, who lived here all his life, remembered it pretty much the same way. "In midsummer 1874," he wrote in the *Advance News* in June 1940, "I saw the first railroad engine come from the east. It stopped right in the center of what is now South Main Street, blocking all traffic until the workmen laid another length of rails ahead of the engine so it could move ahead another thirty feet. There were ten or twelve flat cars loaded with iron rails and ties, which the men would unload and carry ahead of the engine and put them in place so the train could move ahead again."

Why this particular section was the last, or nearly the last, to be completed is not known, tho obviously the marshy terrain had a lot to do with it. Whatever the cause, however, there is no indication there was any Golden Spike ceremony celebrating the meeting of the rails.

B&O records indicate the tracks were completed to Baltimore Junction, at the very edge of Chicago, on November 15, 1874, and that eight days later regular operations and service commenced.

This page sponsored by **FAIRCHILD PRINTERS, INC.; ROBINSON & PRICE SEEDSMEN, INC.**

The Locke-Eby Private Station

Meanwhile in Locke, by-passed by the railroad, there was uneasiness. With time running out for them, tensions mounted. To their credit Locke's businessmen — for the most part young, energetic — recognized that access to the B&O was a must. The merchants had goods to bring in; the producers had products to ship out. Their solution was to build a railway depot or station — Locke Station as it were — at the railroad's nearest access point, present-day Nappanee, and get their freight in and out by wagon.

From Locke it was ½ mile east to the Locke-Union Township road which led two miles south. There, at an intersecting east-west road (now the square) it was less than two blocks from the railroad right-of-way. Existing roads, such as they were, brought Locke within several hundred feet of the action — if they built a station here, and set up a hack to transfer passengers and freight to Locke.

Agreement was quickly reached with the B&O. Locke would donate five acres, and grade the side tracks without charge, In return the B&O agreed to build a side track station and passenger house to be called Locke Station.

A hitch developed. Locke could not fulfill its part of the bargain; those five acres were not to be had. The owners, Daniel Metzler and John Culp thru whose farms the railroad was cutting its swath were not about to make them available — not for the purpose Locke had in mind.

Under circumstances that remain cloudy and mysterious, to say the least, Locke interests (rather than the B&O) put up a private passenger house and depot. Even more unusual, it went up on railroad property or right-of-way in the vicinity of today's freight house. Mysterious or not, up it did go, and Locke Station it did become on B&O time cards, with Henry F. Eby of Locke as the station agent.

Locke Station Opens for Business

At 5 o'clock on December 6, 1874, Locke Station's schedule was in effect. Train service to the Nappanee area commenced; one from each direction stopped here daily. Passengers and freight were transferred by hack to Locke.

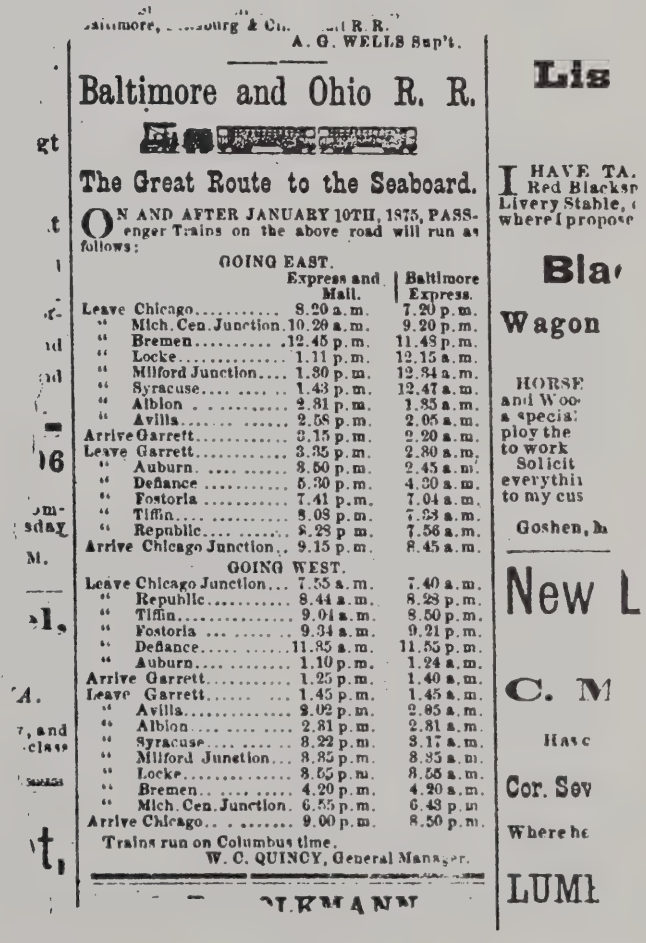
Of the depot's appearance we have only hazy descriptions. Presumably, amidst the cattails and willows that lined the road, ties were crisscrossed to make a sturdy platform reasonably level with a box car door. On top of it a frame shanty was hastily thrown up. Unfortunately no pictures of it exist; at least none has been found. (Within a year the building was moved into the business district and fitted up as a store building. While we have pictures of the business district in that later period, it has not been possible yet to identify the first station therein).

It should be mentioned some old timers insist that predating the Eby-Locke depot, an old freight or passenger car had been set off on a siding in the area of today's freight house to serve as a depot. Known facts do not seem to support those recollections. For one thing, when the need arose for a passenger house — when trains started their service thru here — the Locke-Eby private passenger house and depot was up and ready for business. Further, railroad records indicate that because of a severe winter, few sidings, if any, were finished by the railroad before the spring of 1875. With only a single track thru town, and no siding, there would have been no place to set an old car for a depot.

While old timers may indeed remember such a passenger-car depot, what they remember may in fact have been an old passenger car or freight house set aside in some manner for use, during construction, as an office or shelter for railroad workers.

Of one thing we can be certain: when the first trains chugged to a stop in what was to become Nappanee, the Locke-Eby private passenger house and freight depot was ready to receive them.

This Time Card of the B&O, indicating Locke (not Nappanee) as the depot-station here, is from the Goshen Times *of May 13, 1875. In the same form it appeared regularly in that paper for several months earlier, but in positions impossible to photograph in the bound volume. As the schedule concerned Locke (Nappanee) only, the same Time Card first appeared in the* Wakarusa Sun *of December 31, 1874. (Photograph courtesy Elkhart County Historical Society, and Elkhart Public Library).*



A. G. WELLS Sup't.

Baltimore and Ohio R. R.

The Great Route to the Seaboard.

ON AND AFTER JANUARY 10TH, 1875, PASSenger Trains on the above road will run as follows:

GOING EAST.	Express and Mail.	Baltimore Express.
Leave Chicago	8.20 a.m.	7.20 p.m.
" Mich. Cen. Junction	10.20 a.m.	9.20 p.m.
" Bremen	12.45 p.m.	11.48 p.m.
" Locke	1.11 p.m.	12.15 a.m.
" Milford Junction	1.30 p.m.	12.34 a.m.
" Syracuse	1.43 p.m.	12.47 a.m.
" Albion	2.31 p.m.	1.35 a.m.
" Avilla	2.58 p.m.	2.05 a.m.
Arrive Garrett	3.15 p.m.	2.20 a.m.
Leave Garrett	3.35 p.m.	2.30 a.m.
" Auburn	3.50 p.m.	2.45 a.m.
" Defiance	5.30 p.m.	4.30 a.m.
" Fostoria	7.41 p.m.	7.04 a.m.
" Tiffin	8.08 p.m.	7.53 a.m.
" Republic	8.28 p.m.	7.56 a.m.
Arrive Chicago Junction	9.15 p.m.	8.45 a.m.

GOING WEST.		
Leave Chicago Junction	7.55 a.m.	7.40 a.m.
" Republic	8.44 a.m.	8.28 p.m.
" Tiffin	9.04 a.m.	8.50 p.m.
" Fostoria	9.34 a.m.	9.21 p.m.
" Defiance	11.35 a.m.	11.55 p.m.
" Auburn	1.10 p.m.	1.24 a.m.
Arrive Garrett	1.25 p.m.	1.40 a.m.
Leave Garrett	1.45 p.m.	1.45 a.m.
" Avilla	2.02 p.m.	2.05 a.m.
" Albion	2.31 p.m.	2.31 a.m.
" Syracuse	2.22 p.m.	3.17 a.m.
" Milford Junction	3.35 p.m.	3.35 a.m.
" Locke	3.55 p.m.	3.55 a.m.
" Bremen	4.20 p.m.	4.20 a.m.
" Mich. Cen. Junction	6.55 p.m.	6.43 p.m.
Arrive Chicago	9.00 p.m.	8.50 p.m.

Trains run on Columbus time.

W. C. QUINCY, General Manager.

Lis

I HAVE TA. Red Blacksm Livery Stable, where I propose

Bla

Wagon

HORSE and Woo a specia ploy the to work Solicit everythi to my cus

Goshen, In

New L

C. M

Have

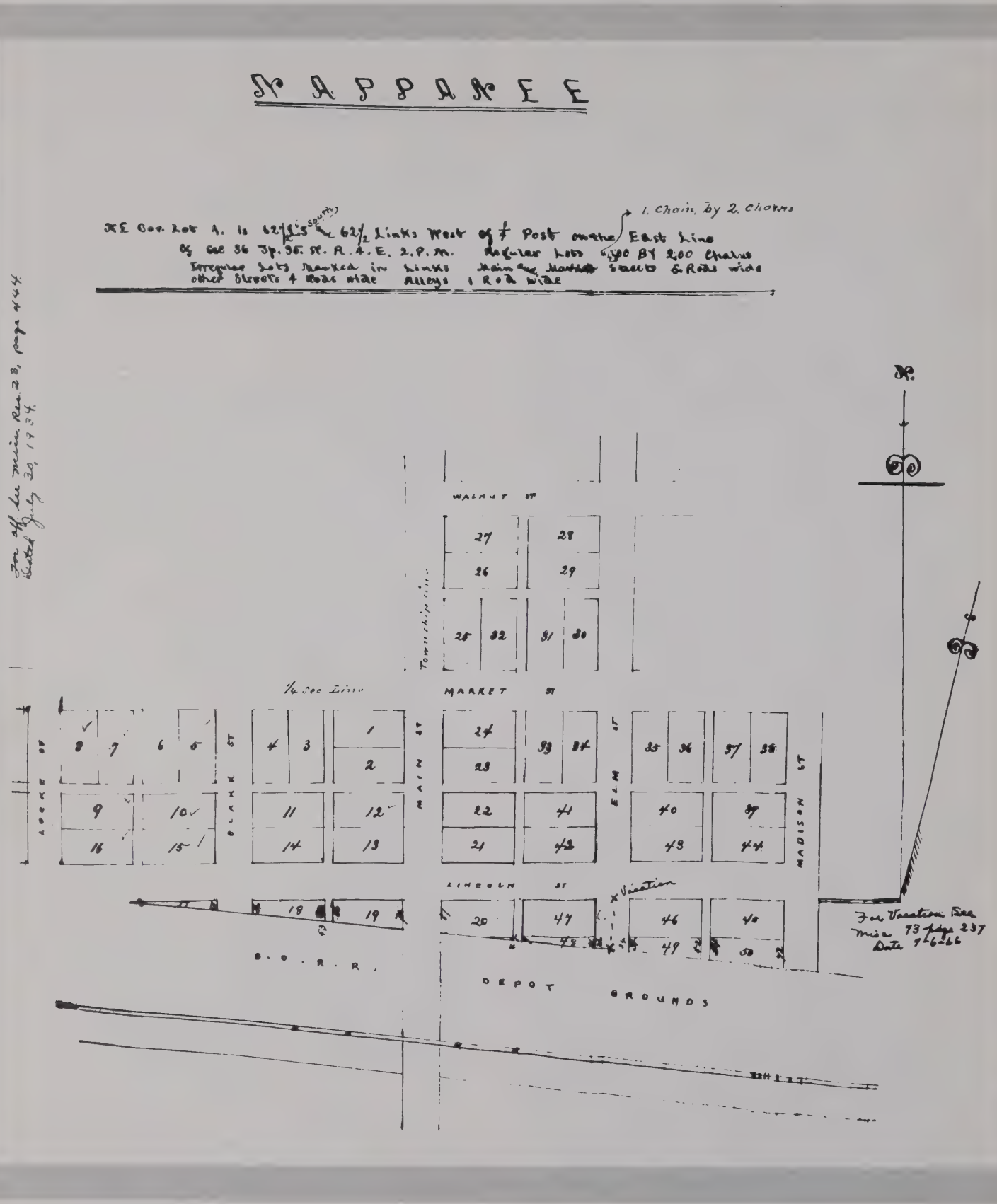
Cor. Sev

Where he

LUMI

This page sponsored by **E. NEWCOMER & SON; STEVE'S MARATHON SERVICE; NAPANA OIL CO.; DESCO CHEMICAL DIV. of DEISCH-BENHAM, INC.**

Original Plat of Nappanee, (dated December 12, 1874, recorded December 16), photographed directly from Deed Record Book 48, page 280, in the Court House, Goshen. Note the bold contemporary heading, NAPPANEE.



PLATTING

WHEN did Daniel Metzler, Henry Stahly and John Culp, Jr. first get big ideas about starting a village here?

Did Locke's aborted "donation" of five acres to the railroad (which needed first to be purchased of them) trigger such thoughts? Did the idea come a bit later when the Locke-Eby private depot and passenger house was rising amidst the tall grass and cattails on the B&O right-of-way? Or had they reached such a decision earlier, independently? We will probably never know, except in the unlikely event a diary, a letter or note of one of those men turns up to tell us.

The Town Platted December 12, 1874

Whatever the impetus, on December 12, 1874 — just six days after the first train screeched to a halt here, to unload its passengers and freight, and chug away—those three men did indeed plat a new village.

They called it Nappanee.

It was surveyed the same day by George T. Ager, later county surveyor and newspaperman. And four days later it was recorded at the court house, where today the original plat of the town — boldly headed Nappanee — can be seen in Deed Record Book 48, page 280.

Eight streets were indicated and named; they remain the same to this day. The Locke-Union township road, extended to meet the railroad, became Main Street, north and south; the existing east-west wagon road became Market Street. East of Main Street, Madison and Elm were inked in; west of Main Street, Clark and Locke. Lincoln Street, east and west, was indicated; and one block of East Walnut.

Lots Were $30 and Up

Fifty lots were laid out. Excepting irregular ones along the railroad, each was ¼ block street frontage and ½ block long, representing three 22 x 132 business lots as we think of them today. One city block square accounted for only eight lots. Prices ranged from $30 to $60. Anyway you looked at it, quite a bargain by today's standards.

That was how it all looked on paper; not unlike the grand maps of today's Florida swamp developers.

On the ground tho the view was something different. Main Street and Market Street were real wagon roads, such as they were. They could be seen; you could ride your buggy on them if you were adventuresome enough.

But all the other roads and alleys existed only on paper, or were indicated by stakes, if indeed they were. You wouldn't drive your cutter up any of them.

As for the lots, some were more desirable than others. Or less so, whatever your point of view. While a few had been laid out in "deadenings" or clearings, most were still covered by tall timber, scrub and undergrowth. Some were lower than others, and soggy, with patches of cattails or the like. None was particularly inviting.

From a ground level view it presented a disappointing vista, as George T. Ager years later recalled in the *Goshen News* in 1895: "The writer just 21 years ago drove the first stake in the wilderness, stopping with Daniel Metzler in a log house six rods west of the intersection of Main and Market Streets. We two took the jibes and jeers of the wits for laying out a town in the nowhere with nobody for neighbors. But the stakes were driven just the same; the swamp has been made to bloom like the rose and where the frogs made their abode, today is located one of the best little cities."

Desirable lots or not, nine days after the platting, on December 21, the first two were sold; both to the same man, Noah W. Reed. He took lot 35, fronting ¼ block on Market and extending ½ block along South Elm (Baptist Church and house today) for $35. And lot 21, fronting ¼ block on South Main and extending ½ block west on Lincoln (Jim's TV, Dave's Men's Wear and Jaydee Cleaners today) for $60.

Land Donated for Depot

Meanwhile, on December 14, "for $1 in hand," as the deed read, "and the location of a station where the railroad crosses the Locke Township line," Culp gave the railroad three acres, and Metzler two. To even up their donations, Metzler paid Culp $15 in cash, the price of half an acre then.

As matters stood then, as the area awaited the new year 1875, the B&O was in operation. Trains were stopping almost daily with passengers and freight at Eby's depot. The daily hack to Locke was in operation. And, a new village, Nappanee, had been platted and surveyed — almost surrounding Locke station — and five acres had been donated to the B&O on condition of a station house for the new village.

This page sponsored by Wise Town & Country Furniture

(Above) *B&O Depot, about 1900. Except for the bay window, added in 1881, and an addition to the west in 1882, this is basically the B&O depot erected in 1875, and moved south of town in 1911. Standing (left to right): Oscar Walters, chief clerk; Charles Klotz; Charles Whiteman, B&O agent; (background) messenger boy, Lemuel Sechrist; Telegraph operator Sheller; Firm Troup, clerk; a trainman. Seated: a trainman.*

(Below) *In February 1875, in the village's second month, James Lake of Locke moved a small stock of groceries into the former broom and shoe shop of Daniel Metzler, then on the southwest corner of the square. (See photo, page 16). He became Nappanee's first merchant. According to David Metzler that original building still stands at 306 West Randolph Street. (Photograph courtesy* Nappanee Advance-News).

TO PLAT a village, to stake it out, was one thing. To have it grow was still another.

When Nappanee was laid out there were ten towns in the county selling town lots. Close by, Nappanee had stiff competition. Milford, New Paris, Wakarusa, Locke were all well established. Even Bremen was a few years old. Against them, all Nappanee had going for itself was a situation on the new railroad. (And in that respect at least, Bremen was even up with the new village).

Yet, Nappanee boomed right from the start, even while others faltered, even failed. Why?

While it is generally stated that Locke was "absorbed" by Nappanee, perhaps it would be more accurate to say Locke *made* Nappanee. For Locke gave Nappanee the initial push and momentum that was needed; from then on it was impossible to stop the new village.

Locke was so near the railroad, and yet so far. Locke was just as near Nappanee. Rivalry therefore developed quickly. Those with the most to lose in either place needed to protect their respective interests.

On the other hand, smart cookies in Locke — with a little less to protect there than others — saw not loss in the new village of Nappanee, but rather opportunity. Even some of those with much to lose in Locke saw they could cut their losses by getting to Nappanee quickly.

The movement of business and people from Locke to Nappanee was positive and quick. From Locke, then, Nappanee gained the initial push or boost that it needed. Lots sold "like oranges," to use the villagers' expression. Things developed so quickly in the first months in Nappanee progress can be reported almost upon a monthly basis.

January 1875

If tradition can be believed, especially if backed by some evidence, C. D. Volkman put up the first new dwelling in the first month after the village was started. He'd just seen his home and blacksmith shop go up in flames in New Paris; he was looking for a location to start anew.

On January 11, 1875, he purchased two lots on East Market Street (lots 37 and 38) — a whole ½ block fronting on Market, and ½ block fronting on Madison, west of today's Methodist Church — for $20 cash and a mortgage for $60, and an agreement to erect a house. In weather below zero, working by a rail fire, as Volkman recalled and related the incident to Gordon Murray for the *Nappanee News*, April 9, 1902, he and his brother-in-law Eli Holderman, set to work. "Before he had quite completed his little habitation," Murray wrote, "his nails were exhausted. He walked over to Locke Town 2½ miles for 15 cents worth to finish the work. But he came back without them, not having that much money.

"The merchant, ex-Postmaster Eby, now (Murray was writing in 1902), carver at the furniture factory would not give him credit for that many nails. Perhaps Mr. Eby had no faith in Nappanee at that early date in its history, much less in anybody who would locate on a town site on

EARLY DAYS

a portion of which the huckleberries grew and the bullfrogs croaked.

"Volkman returned, and the same day started on foot for New Paris, 13½ miles, via Milford Junction, where he bought 60 cents worth of nails, having first spent a little time collecting some money due him of several people in that vicinity, where at that time he lived. After getting the nails he returned with them the same day, having covered the distance of 32 miles in one day, and the highway was icy and walking was somewhat difficult."

He moved his family in on February 2, before the village was quite two months old. That first house built after the town's platting is here yet. When Arthur Miller built his brick home on the eastern lot, the frame house of Volkman was moved across the street. It now stands south of the Methodist Church. Tho how much has been added, or how it resembled the original house is really not known.

February 1875

"We have two stores," it was reported in the Nappanee items in the *Wakarusa Sun* in February, "one owned by Henry F. Eby and the other by James Lake, both of Locke." Because Eby's store was later described in the *Sun* as "really in Locke, but so close we call it Nappanee" it is presumed the reference was to Eby's private depot (which stood at the freight depot site), where he had set up a little store, a branch of Eby's of Locke, as it were. Whether his or Lake's was the first store is not really known. To Eby probably goes the claim, since he was here as early as December as station agent. Lake's store was set up in Metzler's broom shop (Johnson Building site).

A. T. Hochstetler moved a building, from whence we know not, into Nappanee which he was fixing up as a "storehouse," as the villagers termed business places. J. C. Bailey of Wolfe Lake rented it and within days was moving in his stock of dry goods and hardware.

Peddycord, Truex, Hartman, all of Locke, and Metzler of Nappanee announced plans for putting up "storehouses" with 88 feet frontage, fifty feet deep on the southwest corner of the square. Metzler was also putting up another on his own lot.

Twenty-five to thirty carloads of lumber and general freight had already been shipped from Nappanee. Sam Yarian and Long had collected several hundred dollars toward building a United Brethren Church.

March 1875

By the end of March the village had recorded its first death, the child of Christian Houshour. Even tho the latter's house on East Market Street predated the village, he was not technically inside the village confines at the time. But within present-day Nappanee of course.

Dr. J. S. Smith had received his credentials as postmaster; one corner of his one-story office on South Main Street (G&N vicinity) was being fitted up as a postoffice. Joseph Strohm had purchased land and was moving his Planing Mill from Locke, just as soon as some matters were cleared up there.

Tobias Hartman of Locke purchased four lots for $200 — the whole block fronting on East Market Street from the square, and extending ½ block north. That lots were selling well indeed is evident; on April 28 Metzler platted his First Addition to the village, directly west of the original town, adding twelve more lots.

May 1875

So well was he doing in his dry goods-hardware store, J. C. Bailey had plans to put up a new building on the southeast corner of the square (Dunham's today). Meanwhile, the postoffice, Nappanee, had opened in a cubby hole in Dr. Smith's office; when he wasn't pushing pills he was meeting the trains twice daily for the mails.

A 20 x 40 building on the southwest corner of the square was nearly finished for Peddycord's drug store. (That old building still stands, as a residence, at 306 West Randolph Street). A 2½ story, 40 x 60 building was to be built by a chap from Bremen for an Elkhart clothier. Five dwellings neared completion; a lot had been donated for the United Brethren Church.

Even Wakarusa people had seen the value of the B&O and Nappanee. Uline & Seaman flour mill, of Wakarusa, was shipping forty barrels of flour a day by wagon to Nappanee, then by rail to Baltimore. (By July they were shipping 150 barrels a day).

August 1875

August was a momentous month. Nappanee's citizens agreed to give the B&O $1,000 and erect a depot in the style of Syracuse and Cromwell. In return the railroad agreed to build a grain elevator, freight depot, stock yards and lumber dock! To locate their sites, the president of the railroad had been in town.

continued on page fourteen

NAPPANEE, 1878

(Above) MAIN STREET, 1876-1877, looking north, with West Market Street off to the middle left. The two-story corner building, with outside stairway (now Schultz) was the Porter Saloon; above was one of Nappanee's early schools. To the left, down West Market street the one-story building has clothing in the window. In center foreground the one-story building with cowshed (covered walk), was the Drug Store. To the left, down Main Street beyond the vacant lot is a two-story building which appears to be unoccupied. It is probably the Johnson Building (with Johnson Hall upstairs) into which Cheap John the Clothier moved in 1878. Only the tip of a cowshed of the next building down South Main can be seen. Note the dirt roads and wooden crosswalks at the square. This picture can be dated by a number of circumstances. 1) The white spot in the east window of Porter Saloon is a newspaper headed "It's Hendricks," presumably referring to his election in 1876. 2) Porter left town in 1878. 3) School was held upstairs only until completion of the brick school house in 1879. *(Left)* The same scene today.

(Above) SOUTH MAIN STREET, 1876-1877, looking south beyond Lincoln Street. The two-story structure with the overhanging porch (Brethren Service site) is presumed to have been the shop of Frank Zinn, later taken over by P. C. Stahley Furniture Factory. To the right, the two-story white building is presumably the residence of E. D. Stoner. Beyond, further south and next to the railroad, only the tip of the B&O Elevator can be seen. The low black structure in the middle of the picture is a B&O freight box car. The wagons which clog the dirt street are filled with produce, apparently lined up at the elevator. The two white structures in the background, right, are houses or barns on the east side of South Main Street beyond the railroad tracks. Not clear in this reproduction, but quite so in the original tintype, is a pump that can be seen at the extreme right, just above the crosswalk. Both this picture and the one facing on page 12 were long-time mementoes of Jacob Weygand, Nappanee's first resident tintype photographer, whose work was done in a photo car. *(Right)* The same scene as it looks today.

Sam Hartman's house had been completed and was one of the finest in the county — or so the Nappanee correspondent insisted. South of the tracks, on the site of today's flour mill, Joseph Strohm had his two-story 40 x 70 building going up for his planing mill.

November 1875

A second doctor, Dr. Bushong, arrived in town and set up office. Most important of all, Nappanee's first industry was in operation. Not only were several hands dressing lumber at Strohm's Planing Mill and Box Factory, they were also making boxes for Elkhart Starch Company. The B&O Elevator was completed and receiving wheat. In the middle of November an on-the-spot estimate by a *Goshen Times* reporter placed the number of dwellings and buildings in town at fifty.

December 1875

One year after its platting the depot was nearly finished, as was the United Brethren Church.

Shipments were running nearly two carloads a day. In fact, railroad officials who often dropped in, were amazed at the growth, for the village then was equaled only by Garrett of the new towns on the line.

On Christmas Day the B&O time cards were changed. Locke Station was dropped; it was no more. The new depot and station was now Napanee — but with only one p.

By the end of its first year then there were at least fifty dwellings and storehouses and factories; perhaps as many as one hundred people.

1876

The boom continued. Business "storehouses" and dwellings went up all over the place. In May Fahlstrom platted the northwest corner of the square, with twenty-four more lots fronting on West Market Street and 1½ blocks on North Main Street.

In August there was a Grand Sunday School Picnic and Celebration. Of it the *Wakarusa Sun* commented: "We were impressed that Nappanee is blessed with citizens that do not spend their time talking about things but go right to work and everything undertaken has been a success."

When the *Sun* editor returned in September he was again struck with the continued growth and wrote: "Now about one dozen houses are in the course of erection. Several more are to go up this fall. We predict for Nappanee a bright future."

By November the village had a Hall, Seirer Hall, and entertainment that was drawing from far and wide. After two days in Wakarusa, M'lle Louise and her Scottish Warblers tore down their canvas and came to Nappanee. They posted circulars announcing they would give an entertainment in the Hall that evening. "The beautiful phiz (face) of M'lle Louise" and her Scottish warblings had so completely fascinated some of Wakarusa's young men that fourteen of them came to Nappanee in the evening "to see her and let her know that they appreciated her style," as reported by the *Wakarusa Sun.*

1877

Growth continued as before. But there were events of more than usual interest elsewhere. George Eby, one of the most important men in Locke, Nappanee's benefactor and rival, "under the pressure of hard times has suspended business," wrote the *Wakarusa Sun.* "He closed his store about a week ago, and is now defending himself under what is known as the bankrupt law." Aside from "hard times" this seems to indicate the severe pinch being felt by all business houses still in Locke.

In July Seaman & Nusbaum of Wakarusa opened an exchange establishment. They had put up an elevator and entered the grain buying field, as well as exchanging flour for wheat.

Nappanee really reached the big time. Seirer Hall, scene of M'lle Louise and her Scottish Warblers, became a battleground. At a dance there in July, as related by the *Wakarusa Sun,* nearly fifty persons were engaged in a row in which "shooting, stabbing, clubbing and all other violence was considered fare (sic), and were liberally resorted to by the entire party. Ladies were compelled to secure their safety by flight — several of them being brought to the floor by the frantic tusseling mob before making their escape. The walls and floor of the hall were literally covered with blood and hardly a person of the

NORTH MAIN STREET, 1879, *looking north from an elevation, perhaps the stairway of the Corner Hardware (Schultz now). Extreme lower left is the cowshed (covered walk) of Bryson wagon works (Fairchild Printers now). At far right the two houses occupied the present Library grounds. The road to the right in about the center of the picture was Walnut Street, the next one VanBuren. In the background, left, is the brick school building started in 1878 and finished in 1879. It was demolished in 1937. (Reproduced from a stereopticon tintype, none too good in clarity).*

This page sponsored by **SUPERSWEET FEEDS**
Division, International Multifoods, Corp.

WEST MARKET STREET, 1876 or 1877, *looking West. This view appears to be a few months earlier than the same general scene on page 12. In this view Porter Saloon occupies the northwest corner of the square, but there appears to be no school upstairs. To the left, the one-story building has no cowshed, as does the same structure in the picture on page 12. In front of the third building from the square a pump can be seen. (Reproduced from a damaged tintype which had not survived the years as well as many of the early ones. Interestingly, this tintype did not need to be reversed, as did those on pages 12 and 13).*

entire engagement can now be found who does not wear a black eye or some other disfiguration."

The village recovered. By November Caroline Holdeman of Wakarusa had opened her millinery store here.

1878

Still more big city appurtenances appeared. In May J. H. Hall, Attorney at Law, Notary Public and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, set up an office.

July 4th was the biggest day of celebration yet. Baseball. Foot racing. Climbing greased pole. Catching greased pig. Bowery Dance. With all proceeds going to the newly organized fire department. Unfortunately the festivities were marred when a young lad was badly hurt in the anvil shooting.

By October the *Wakarusa Sun* reported, "Nappanee is fast becoming a wheat market." Even the politicians began to sniff some votes here. One hired the Locke Band for $5 to accompany him here for a speaking engagement. But he welshed on his deal; the band got only $3, but considered itself lucky to collect anything from a politician.

Nappanee Hotel had a score of regular boarders, and an equal number of drummers and transients. "It is really a palace hotel," wrote the editor of the *Wakarusa Sun.* "Its every department is furnished in an elegant manner. Its menu consists of everything that the most liberal market can supply and a stay within its princely and hospital (sic) walls is marked by the greatest pleasure and comfort. A livery and feed stable is in close proximity where good accommodation can be had."

With considerable fanfare Cheap John, the mammoth Clothier of Goshen, opened a large branch here. And a new brick school building was rising on North Main Street as the talk of the town and township.

1879

The new year got off on an ugly note. Arson, or attempted or suspected arson, reared its head. "A fire was discovered," wrote the *Sun,* "which had been kindled under the clothing establishment which, if successful in its desired ends would have destroyed an entire block. The fire had been kindled with packing that had evidently been stolen from the railroad company. Suspicious eyes have been busily viewing the field and it is said they are pretty generally centering on the same spot."

The one-way traffic in houses moving here from Locke reached epidemic proportions; Locke was running out of stock.

By February the village had its third restaurant. And A. C. Miller had organized what was to become the village's pride and joy, The Nappanee Cornet Band.

In five months the elevator had purchased and shipped 36,000 bushels of wheat, while Hartman Brothers (for Calbeck of Cromwell) had purchased and shipped nearly as much.

In February there was a war on foxes when nearly 500 people, among them twenty-five ladies (as the *Wakarusa Sun* pointed out) surrounded a large territory and with hoops and yells closed in on four of the "red skinned victims."

And on March 29, 1879, Nappanee came of age. It had a newspaper. Anson Smith, who purchased the *Wakarusa Sun,* moved the old handpress into the upstairs rooms on the square (vacated by the school), and issued the first number of the *Nappanee Weekly News.*

(Above) NAPPANEE'S FIRST HOTEL, *dating from mid-1875. The Annex is not shown here.*

(Below) CORNER DRUG STORE *(southwest corner of square), dating from early 1875. Note the boardwalks, or wooden sidewalks. This building, still in town, can be seen as it appears today, on page 10.*

THE HASSLE

WHEN PEOPLE, business, and dwellings started their trek southward from Locke to Nappanee in 1875, rivalry grew intense. Their zeal — Locke to remain a healthy village, Nappanee to become one — heated to the boiling point. It is no wonder that a lot of steam was let off by each thru the press: *The Goshen Times,* the *Wakarusa Sun.* Any journal in fact that would accept the correspondence of either. In those days of free-wheeling journalism, the news was blunt and to the point. In their correspondence, the country reporters were as earthy as the next.

As the Nappanee-Locke rivalry heated, so did the correspondents. It started innocently enough with a publicity blurb from a Nappanee correspondent to the *Goshen Times* on December 17, 1874: "NAPPANEE is the name of a town laid out in Elkhart County, Indiana, on the B.P.&C.R.R., eight miles west of Milford, where a general station is located. Persons desiring to locate in business would do well to call there and get the advantages of inducements held out. Inquire of D. Metzler and John Culp, Jr., Locke, Indiana."

Locke's correspondent OCCASIONAL was busy too. In an epistle to the *Goshen Times,* just as Nappanee was platted, he stressed the fact Locke Station was in operation, tho forgetting to add that it was in Nappanee. Then, tongue-in-cheek, he asked: Where is that magnificent place Nappanee he'd been hearing about. He'd checked the county atlas; there was no such place anywhere in it. He closed by saying he "hoped to get a situation there."

The Hassle Begins

Shortly the Nappanee correspondent, NAPPANEE did another puff job for his new village. He also commented on OCCASIONAL's difficulties finding Nappanee: "OCCASIONAL says that he consulted the County Atlas of Messrs, Higgins, Belden, but that it could not be found. He cannot surely pretend to be ignorant that Nappanee was never thought of until two or three years after the collection of the manuscript for the publication of the atlas. Therefore he might as well have looked in Webster's Dictionary. The station he speaks of as our station on the B.P.&C.R.R. is just 2½ miles from Locke, at Nappanee, and the only railroad that the people of Locketown have got is a two-horse railroad between Nappanee and Locketown. As to his getting a situation here, the citizens of Nappanee no doubt feel highly honored by his condescension, and Nappanee would probably rise at least one hundred percent in value on his advent. But what would Locketown do?"

When OCCASIONAL failed to rise to the bait, NAPPANEE fired off two epistles, one to the *Goshen Times,* one to the *Wakarusa Sun.* While covering the same ground, each took off in a different direction. In one he wrote: "Locketown's city council, one gentleman in particular, has been making desperate efforts to prevent

COPPES BROS. SAW MILL 1885. *At the left in the picture is the sawdust cart which played an unidentified, tho important, role in early fire calls; at the cart is Anthony Hunt. Only a few of the others have been identified by old timers: third from left Ben Guiss, Newt Swearington, Tom Hossler, in that order. Seated: first from left, Peas Hunt, third from left, John Smeltzer.*

the exodus from that place to the town 'flowing with milk and honey' — Nappanee. As high as $250 has been offered to one firm to build a bending factory in Locke instead of Nappanee, but was rejected as the shipping facilities are so much greater here. It would cost more than that for hauling from Locke to the railroad in three months. Finding that would not do, the latest move is to embellish the classical shades of Locke with street lamps; the gentleman who originated the idea munificently heading the subscription with $1. Truly such generous conduct ought to be remembered, and coming generations may well exclaim as they gaze with awe on such improvements: He was the father of Locke."

NAPPANEE Turns Poetical

In the other, he needled OCCASIONAL: "We believe Nappanee is destined to become one of the best business towns in Elkhart County; that is, providing we can get OCCASIONAL of Locke to honor the benighted citizens of our town with his august presence. We would like to know what has become of OCCASIONAL. We sincerely hope he has not overtaxed himself in his endeavors to find Nappanee, and made himself sick. He was seen in a cutter, recently, furiously driving northward from here, his hat pulled down o'er his brow, and he looked neither to the right or left but straight ahead, and by the determined glare in his eyes it could plainly be seen that he meant to find Nappanee or die in the attempt. Whenever he arrives the citizens of good Nappanee intend treating him to a grand oyster supper and firing off anvils, and the day will be observed as a general holiday. We hope he will be around before all the lots are sold. The lines below were found written on a dry goods box by some enterprising youth:

"Oh Sister Locke do not be cross
Tho 'tis unto you a heavy loss,
Because ere long you may able be
To move the remainder to Nappanee."

OCCASIONAL had had it; he was never again heard from in Locke's behalf. TRUMP, JR. took over. His initial dispatch wandered off in several directions. He emphasized Locke's continued prosperity: "The store keepers are doing a lively winter's work. Eby's and Hartman's boys know how to make trade lively and how to use their customers." There was a bit of sarcasm of his own: "Was over south last week past METZLERS CORNERS. Jim Lake and Hank Eby are stopping at the corners, running peanut stands." There were charges of mud-slinging. And finally an inventory of Locke's contributions to Nappanee's success: "NAPPANEE is rather severe on us after all our efforts to help him build a town. Two of our merchants are already there with a fine stack of peanuts and bologna. Locke put up the depot, graded the side tracks, runs a hack for the accommodation of those who may stop at the station, yet he prophesies our utter annihilation. Makes sport of our best efforts to evert destruction; even denying us the poor privilege of a street lamp."

The Locke Horse Car Company

With a Lockeite on his hook NAPPANEE was not one to piddle. Within the week he replied: "A terrible tornado passed over this place. First comes our friend TRUMP, JR. who accuses us of the blackest ingratitude in our conduct toward the Lockeites, who have made us what we are, and on whom we depend for our future support. The carpet baggers he refers to as having slung ink at him, we do not know and probably they exist only in his overheated imagination. Perhaps he stayed too long at Nappanee and partook too freely of Jim Lake's oyster soup; at all events the only ink we know to have been slung was the small quantity spilled by us in our

This page sponsored by **LUE MANUFACTURING CORP.**
BENDING UNLIMITED, INC.

(Above) LOOKING NORTH, *1910 from the top of the water tank. Left center, back end of Coppes Hotel; to its right, old United Brethren Church; center right, old Methodist Church.*

(Below) NAPPANEE'S FIRST BRICK HOUSE, *dating from 1879. It is still in use as a home, at 202 West Randolph Street.*

endeavor to save Nappanee from misrepresentation by him and others who have opposed this place from the commencement, altho assuming the guise of friendship. Who can read such a touching account of your calamaties without moistened eyes? We cannot. But forgive us when we politely inform you that you were never asked to build the depot as the railroad company were under bonds to do that, and it was done thru purely interested motives; that Locke did not grade the sidetrack, and that the Locke Horse Car Company is only for the benefit of Locke. We congratulate you upon the accession of that refulgent lamp and so far from denying you the privilege of having one, we will give one cent towards another. But is it not in danger so near the gas factory?"

In Locke's behalf LOCKETOWN took up the cause. Where others tried bravado, he commiserated. He played for sympathy for the underdog. "Of course things are not as flourishing here as we pretend. We see plainly Nappanee is going to eclipse Locke, in spite of our utmost endeavors to prevent it. The truth is we have property here, that since the coming of Nappanee has been rapdily depreciating in value and if things go on the way they have been going, after a while we could make more by letting it out for a potato patch. We have tried every expedient that we could hit upon for puffing Locke. In fact we played the wolf in sheep's clothing and have written from Nappanee damaging it as much as we could. Of course we did not strictly confine ourselves to the truth. We have now a plan we think will do. It is to widen the streets here and put lamps on the corners. We have only one lamp at present, and we have ten times as much gas as it can consume, but even then, between you and me, we think we can work better in the dark; at all events until our property is sold — and Locke looks better at night."

But was this genuine correspondence from Locke? While it has some ring of authenticity, it is suspect. The general tone and style are just too reminiscent of NAPPANEE.

TRUMP, JR. returned to the fray in March, 1875. He made a point which may have more significance than appears on the surface. "Today were it not for the energy of the Eby Brothers, the trains would go smoking thru your place as thru any other wilderness. We do not propose donating anything in charity to Nappanee; nor will we permit her to pilfer from us. Send in your penny."

In April 1875 NAPPANEE returned to the matter of the gas lamps and the penny. "That penny, I laid in readiness at my bankers, made out to your order. The only trouble now is how to send it, as you say that there are so many carpet baggers around Locke, I would be afraid to make my appearance there with so large amount of specie on my person. What has become of that other lamp? Did it explode already?" Then he charged: "Some malicious individual belonging to Locke inserted a pin with the point upward in the cushion of a buggy seat, belonging to a gentleman who went to Locke from this place the other day. Such deplicable (sic) tricks are a disgrace to any civilized community."

A Bizarre Incident

With all the charges and counter charges, the hot air and horseplay; Nappanee people writing from Locke and Locke people from Nappanee — with all this action, the source and true nature of some newspaper communications are in doubt, as has been noted. In that respect the most bizarre affair occurred in May 1875. Presumably the new postmaster at Nappanee had, on May 10, written the B&O suggesting that since a postoffice had been established at Nappanee, the time was ripe to change the station name to Nappanee as well. The reply he received, according to NAPPANEE, read as follows:

Office of the B&O RR
May 15, 1875

Mr. Postmaster of Nappanee:
Yours is at hand of the 10th inst. We cannot change the name of your station. Locke has already cost us four thousand dollars, and if your town can raise $10,000 it might effect a change.
N. Guilford, M.D.

NAPPANEE commented: "Probably you are not aware that the B&O has removed their headquarters to Locke. Our postmaster received a letter last Friday from that point, purporting to be from the head manager of the road. If our Locke friends want to make any communications from the railroad in future we hope they will do it thru the *Times*. And we advise our unknown friend before he undertakes to write again to reflect that by using another man's name he lays himself open to serious charges. And again, when railroad companies write letters they generally have them signed by the secretary and not by their physician. We excuse our Locke friends as we know they have not much to do there at present and must pass away the time. But if they cannot manufacture anything better than this, they had better quit letter writing and build some more street lamps."

There is an abundance of questions about this affair. Was such a letter actually received in Nappanee; or was it concocted here? On the other hand, if it was fabricated in Locke, as NAPPANEE charged, how did the Locke prankster so quickly intercept a postmaster's letter to the B&O? There is one final question: Was the letter a genuine communication from the B&O? Again we will probably never know.

"NAPPANEE" Passes from the Scene

With this rhubarb, NAPPANEE too ceased as a correspondent. All the original protagonists were thus removed from the scene. With respect to the Locke-Nappanee hassle, no further correspondent of note arose in Locke. In Nappanee tho, two new ones appeared, KITTY and MINNIE. While each reported meaningful stories, they also needled one another! But that is part of another story. In August 1875 KITTY broke the news that a new passenger house for Nappanee was assured. That the president of the railroad had been in town to personally locate a new freight house, stockyards, grain elevator, and lumber dock. But she could not resist some potshots at Locke. "Messrs. Eby Brothers of Locke have been given notice to remove their building that now answers the purposes of a depot, within 60 days, and when that is gone we suppose the claims of Locke of having been the benefactor of Nappanee perishes.

"What has become of all the Locke correspondents who were so busy last winter? We should like to hear how they are getting on over there. We know they try to persuade themselves and others that they do as much business as formerly, but the fact that in one store where four men used to be kept busy, one man can now easily attend to business."

Then KITTY faded away!

On Christmas day 1875 Napanee replaced Locke on the B&O schedules. For the letterwriters, their heyday was over. For each the usefulness of poison pens was gone. In Nappanee, the day had been won. In Locke it was a matter of accepting what had been inevitable from the start, and to take consolation in the enormous contributions Locke had made to Nappanee's growth.

To the relief of county newspaper readers, they were spared further barbs from Locke and Nappanee.

Meanwhile Locke continued its skid. From 1876-79 its people continued to drift to Nappanee, still taking their dwellings or business houses with them. So furious was the one-way traffic to Nappanee during the winter of 1879 that Nappanee correspondent YOPPY in the *Wakarusa Sun* wrote: "Your Locke 'Buddhist' forgot to say 'we are shipping houses to Nappanee at the rate of two a week and if the good sleighing lasts a few weeks longer, we will run entirely out of stock.' "

Rumors of B&O Repair Shops

With just about everything going its way, Nappanee was prepared to accept at face value just about any kind of good news, or rumor thereof, about the village. It was not unusual then when the *News* in November 1879 reported: "We learn the B&O has purchased ground opposite the passenger house for erecting repair shops. If the report is true it will benefit Nappanee, as they will employ 75 men. The managers say nearly all breaks in this division happened between Garett and LaPaz and as Nappanee is about the center between the two points they have decided to locate the shop here. The land was sold last week." A red-faced editor had to eat his words two weeks later: "A week or so ago we stated that the B&O had purchased land to erect repair shops. It now seems we were the victim of misplaced confidence as the company has no plans of locating shops here."

The Last Days of Locke

As for Locke, Chapman's *History of Elkhart County* of 1881 was the last to treat it as a viable village. Yet, the book was woefully out of date before it reached subscribers' hands. The Locke postoffice was discontinued in 1893. By 1905 Deahl's history of the county stated "there are now probably 25 to 30 people. A small store just erected by E. J. Pippenger is the sole business activity."

THE NAME

THREE MEN claimed to have named Nappanee. Or rather their progeny and friends made the claims for them: Daniel Metzler, one of the founders; and the brothers Eby, George and Henry of Locke.

While there is no direct narrative from Daniel Metzler, three of his sons, all of whom lived here before there was any town, set forth their father's claims. They are quite similar. "I was lucky enough to be born where Nappanee now is located," wrote John Metzler in the *Advance News* in 1930. "My father laying out the first lots and selling them. He had a shop on the main corner where he made boots and brooms. Before the railroad was built an official of the road negotiated with my father for the donation of enough land for a depot and sidetracks, giving my father the assurance that if the land was donated, the depot would be built there instead of a mile east. Father donated two acres on the west side of the road." (Henry Culp donated three on the other side; Metzler paid $15 to even up the donations.) "Father selected the name Shawnee, but Hamsher (of the B&O) said they had a town of that name on the railroad in Ohio. He told father to make another selection. Hamsher used to drive along the proposed line and always made our house his stopping place and ate his meals with us.

"Well do I remember seeing father looking thru books to find a suitable name. About the same time a delegation from Locke got busy with a name. The Locke delegation was headed by George and Henry Eby, Tobias and John Hartman, and others. They told father that the name would be Locke Station, but father said 'never,' that a name ending with station always gave the impression that was all it was and meant no town, just a station.

"One day I heard father say he had selected the name Nappanee; that it was an Indian name and meant 'much flour.' On Hamsher's next trip father told him he had selected Nappanee, and after he studied a little while he said, "That is a very appropriate name and that will be the name of your station."

While recounting much the same story, Jonas Metzler recalled: "I saw my father print the name Shawnee on a board 6 inches wide and 2 feet long and nail it on a post south of the railroad and west of the main street; so Shawnee became the first name. Later I saw my father print the name Nappanee on another board and nail it on the same post."

David Metzler related a similar sequence of events, but added: Danville — in honor of his father — was also suggested. But rejected because there was already a town and postoffice of that name in Indiana (No contemporary record has been found of any other such town).

The brothers Eby remembered it differently. From the start, they claimed, they insisted upon Nappanee, or Napanee, their old home town in Ontario. Bartholomew, the county historian, wrote me in 1943 that Henry Eby personally made the claim to him that he and his brother were the first to propose the name for the town or village here.

Some Known Facts

Probably there is a certain amount of fact and fancy to all viewpoints. Irrespective of recollections, there are known facts, substantiated by contemporary records, which throw doubts upon all the recollections.

Fact 1. Faced with Locke's aborted "donation" of five acres for a station in October 1874, the B&O agreed to call the *station* Locke "just as we knew it would be," to quote Occasional, the Locke writer for the *Goshen Times*, on December 10, 1874, (before the town was platted).

Fact 2. The station did become Locke on the B&O timecards and was used in that manner in newspapers, and printed passenger/freight listings for six months to a year.

Fact 3. When Metzler, Culp and Stahly platted their new village they called it Nappanee — with two p's — not Napanee, with which the Ebys were familiar.

Even tho there are no contemporary records to support the contention, Daniel Metzler could well have suggested Shawnee, or Danville, to the B&O, and nailed up a sign with either name lettered on it. But to have found the word Nappanee, independently of the Ebys — and only later to have learned it was their old home town — is a million-in-one shot. To have known it meant 'much flour' is so esoteric a bit of information, it could hardly have come from anyone not familiar with the Canadian place. Too, all the brothers Metzler insisted the station or depot was never for a moment called Locke. In this contention they are in error; contemporary records show the depot was in fact designated Locke. Obviously this tends to throw some shadows upon the other information recollected by them.

On the other hand there are as many or more inconsistencies in the Ebys' views. They, particularly George, had large interests in Locke which were vulnerable to a new village 2½ miles away, with the advantage of a railroad. While calling the new station Locke, or West Locke would not have been damaging to them, calling it anything else would have been detrimental to their interests. It seems inconceivable that under such circumstances the brothers Eby would have suggested — let alone *insisted* — upon anything other than Locke.

Too, if individually or collectively, the Ebys suggested and insisted upon Nappanee, how did their own private depot become Locke? Incidentally, George Eby was never closely associated with Nappanee. Why then was he interested, or consulted, in naming the new village?

There is the possibility, perhaps the probability, that the Metzlers and the Ebys were talking of two different things: The *village*. And *the depot* which predated it. If we knew specifically to which each was referring, the differing versions might be clearer.

Out of the claims and counter claims, it appears perhaps both the Metzlers and the Ebys had a hand in naming the town, tho in exactly what proportion is impossible to say. Known facts however seem to favor the Metzlers' version.

Nappanee—Its Meaning

Next to who named the village, probably more nonsense has been devoted to the meaning and origins of the word than any other purely historical matter. Speculation comes and goes, and all kinds of yarns have been spun from little more than wild imagination.

As old as the hills is the story settlers on the site found a fetching Indian maiden on a stump napping on her knee. Hence Nap-on-knee. This comes up every now and then, but is so foolish no one takes it seriously. Nearly as old is the explanation the word is Indian for "Beautiful Maiden." Unfortunately, during the 75th anniversary of the town, even so august a body as our Association of Commerce peddled it generously in its publicity releases. Thru its blurbs, the tale found its way into out-of-town dailies and weeklies. And thus keeps popping up.

There is another cock and bull story it is an Indian word meaning "mud knee deep." If so, the Indians had a whole vocabulary for mud. For Wakarusa, and other Indian-sounding names, have been claimed to mean mud-knee-deep too.

Someone even made the rash and reckless statement the word was Chinese and meant "land of flowers." How such a thought got mixed up with what was then a miserable swamp is not explained. Further, no one has ever gone on record as finding any Chinese squatters on the premises in those early days. In any event Lin Yutang, the Chinese scholar and author, when queried on the matter years ago, wrote me to the effect that Nappanee was definitely not Chinese in origin. Not at least in any Chinese lingo he had ever heard.

None of these far-fetched stories can be seriously considered since the word has no local origin. Research needs to start in its original habitat, Napanee, Canada. Up there Indian scholars have always been one in saying no one is able to give the true meaning of the word, (or as it was first spelled Appanee, or Apanee). They say its original intent has been lost and will probably never be known. They are in complete agreement tho in saying the word has a secondary meaning: flour or grain.

W. S. Herrington of Napanee, Ontario, explained: The first grist mill in the rural parts of Ontario was built at Napanee. To it the Canadian settlers and Indians took their corn and other grains to be ground. In time the Indians began to apply to the flour they hauled away the name of the place where they'd gotten it. It was his further opinion the N was added to Appanee or Apanee to make it more euphonious.

Agreeing was Douglas Leechman, for years with the National Museum of Canada. He added tho, the river at Napanee was known as the Apanee before the first mill was erected — which unfortunately is where we came in. He makes one final point. Napanee is a Mississauga Indian word meaning flour; Mississauga is a dialect of Ojibwa. One Ojibwa dictionary lists a word nah-pah-nah, meaning flour.

Jacob Piatt Dunn, the generally careful Indiana scholar, in his *Indiana and Indianans* said the word was originally na-pa-ni, meaning flour. Unfortunately he did not identify his source of the information. Incidentally H. S. K. Bartholomew, the long-time head of the Elkhart County Historical Society said the Ontario Napanee was named after a tribe of Indians — which does not jibe with the Canadian authorities cited. Unfortunately, his source or authority was also unidentified.

Leander Hershberger, the Nappanee Bard, put the whole affair in a nutshell poetically — if not with complete historical accuracy — when he wrote a poem called "Tradition."

Once, a fair Maid
Born a Shawnee—
Big Chief named
Her Nappanee.

In old Shawnee—
To squaws quite "sour"
Nappanee meant
"Place of much flour."

This page sponsored by St Joseph Valley Bank

(Top) LOG WAGONS, 1885. (Center) STEAMER TOPEKA, *one of the largest ships (228.3 feet) plying the Great Lakes in the 1890s. Built in Milwaukee of Nappanee ship timbers. (Photo courtesy Milwaukee Public Library).* (Bottom) SAWMILL, *Box Factory and Planing Mill of Coppes Bros. & Zook, about 1888, on East Market Street.*

WHILE Nappanee's first industry was a sawmill, and most since has been wood oriented, it is not generally realized that logging and lumbering were vibrant and healthy endeavors in the early days of the village, and for many years thereafter. Mellinger and Myers were the first; S. C. Yoder, who was here before the town, recalled hauling the first load of bricks from Wakarusa to build their mill in 1873. Within a few years it was purchased by the brothers Coppes — Frank, John, Samuel — three of the sharpest lumbering men of the area, who developed the mill to its full potential.

There were other mills, in Locke, between here and there, in all directions. Within the confines of the city there were a number of them. Next to Coppes Brothers the largest, in operation in 1879, was Good and Schrock, in the east part of town; it was one of the finest in the county. In that same year Frank Zinn had a "saw and planing mill" in the area of the Brethren Service site. In the early 1880s Jacob Nettrour supplied large quantities of lumber; Hartman Brothers had a mill west of the Coppes operation. Volkman Brothers Lath and Stave Factory in the vicinity of the old town hall site made bed slats, staves, table legs in addition to lumber. In 1888 Elisha Good was proprietor of a new mill; and shortly thereafter Schmucker sawmill, at the west edge of town, across from the Mennonite Church, was cutting up to eight thousand feet daily. In later years Mutschler Brothers Company had its own mill, which incidentally was the last to survive.

Immense Quantities of Logs

There were trees the likes of which in quantity and size we shall never see again hereabouts. When the first settlers came to clear the land, there was little thought of the value of the trees that went up in smoke. "We saw some large and valuable walnut logs pass our office in Wakarusa yesterday," wrote the *Sun* in 1874, "and it reminded us of a time when we first came to this place, that the farmers in clearing their land burned up thousands of them better than these, because the logs were not worth enough to pay for the saw bill. If they had them now they would be rich, for a black walnut log counts in greenbacks from ten to twenty dollars." Today, one hundred years later, how much richer they would be!

Predating the town, Levi Ulery's diary recorded interesting sales: in 1870, 3,185 feet of walnut lumber sold for $111.47. Five loads of walnut sold for $99.15. In 1873, 7,500 feet of poplar sold to Studebaker for $144.

Just to read of the enormous quantities of logs brought into town boggles the mind; for the Coppes mill alone the amounts are staggering. From the day sleighing started in 1883 till the following February — less than three months — nearly 7,500 logs were brought in. Thirty-five men and six teams were engaged regularly in the hauling. In February 1888 there were between 18,000 and 20,000 logs in the Coppes yards. In the following winter there were days when over a thousand logs were delivered in one day! And seven acres of the yards were covered with saw timber, with logs piled two to five deep.

This page sponsored by **Fox's Schwinn Cyclery Shop; Dr. and Mrs. Russel L. Bolyard; Nappanee Church of the Brethren; Tri Kappa Sorority; Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Method; St. John's Lutheran Church; Nappanee Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.; J & D Service**

LOGGING

For some of the other mills to have a million feet on hand was no big deal. Schmucker sawmill, with a large Amish trade, in January 1891 had purchased a million feet of logs and was cutting from seven to eight thousand feet daily. Others approached that figure.

Giant Logs Arrive in Quantity

The size of some of the individual logs makes one think not of Indiana trees, but of the real giants of elsewhere. In clearing stumps and stones in the southeast part of town in 1881 John Kehr blasted a white ash stump 3½ feet across the top, perfectly solid and green. Sol Yoder and Isaiah Flowers in 1886 cut an ash tree that made six saw logs, twelve feet long. The butt log measured 4½ feet and the top one 2½ feet across. It was good thruout and made over three thousand feet of lumber. It was considered the largest ash tree in this locality.

Even that was matched shortly when Oliver Wisler hauled in an oak log 36 feet long, 40 inches across the butt, and containing 2,400 feet of lumber. The body of the tree was 60 feet long and 30 inches across the top. Cut into two logs, the first was twenty-four feet in length. It required three teams and one yoke of oxen to draw it. Still another monarch came in 1887, a fifty-six foot oak log, measuring 26" at the top, which came across the marsh aboard two truck wagons pulled by six horses.

The lumber cut matched the magnitude of the logs purchased. As early as 1885 Coppes Brothers alone was manufacturing lumber at the rate of 75,000 feet per week. They had their greatest single week yet in 1893 when they turned out over 200,000 feet.

The Lumber Products

And what were the lumber products made of such immense quantities of logs? Hardly a country or village structure went up that was not made of Coppes Brothers lumber. If not from them, then from one of the other local mills. Untold carloads rolled eastward and westward, far and wide, even as far as Glasgow, Scotland, as early as 1888.

There were products not normally associated with Nappanee. Ship timber, for instance. During the winter of 1880-81 Jacob Nettrour shipped large quantities. Coppes Brothers engaged in it, too. On one Monday in 1887 eleven carloads were shipped to Milwaukee; on the following Saturday another four. At least one ship made from that Nappanee ship timber has been identified, The Topeka, one of the largest ships plying the Great Lakes in the 1890s.

Bridge timber was shipped in abundance. All the while Coppes Brothers alone was doing an extensive business in manufacturing mouldings, brackets and general house trimmings, producing as fine as any in the country. Not to mention enormous quantities of boxes. Other manufacturers turned out boxes, butter tubs, tables, furniture, and other products in abundance.

Some Sharp Lumbermen

"In conversation with John Coppes," wrote the *News* in 1887, "he told us some of his and his brother Frank's experiences in estimating lumber standing in a tree. They buy their timber standing, generally, and in such cases the amount of saw lumber has to be estimated before a bargain can be made. They use no measure at all, but simply stand by the tree and size it up *mentally*. Usually both estimate the same lot, but neither knows what the other's estimate is — until they are through, when they compare. One time they estimated a lot that ran over 100,000 feet and varied only thirty feet! And at no time have they varied more than 100 feet."

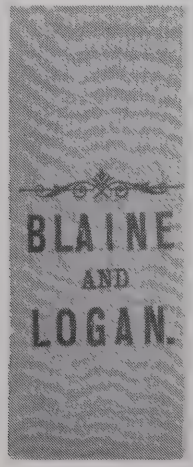
In 1922 the Coppes Brothers & Zook mill burned to the ground. It was rebuilt. But logging was changing hereabouts. One mill was moved to Michigan, to greener fields. Even the Coppes, and Mutschler mills disappeared before many more years. From immense stands of timbers one hundred years ago, we have become essentially a have-not area.

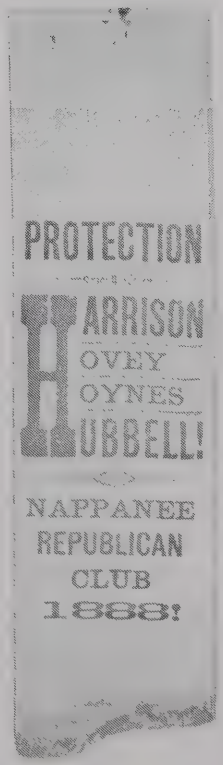
This page sponsored by **BOB'S FORD, INC.; STEF'S MUTSCHLER KITCHENS, INC.**

(Top) 1888 CAMPAIGN. *Harrison and Reid log cabin mounted on a wagon bed. To the right is a decorated "float," with ladies in regalia, ready for the campaign parade.*

(Center) CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS, 1888. *While it has not been definitely identified as such, this may be the "Wigwam" erected by the Republicans at the corner of Main and Centennial Streets during the campaign of 1888; or a later version of it.*

(Bottom) CAMPAIGN RIBBONS, 1888. *(Courtesy John Hinton Collection).*





EARLY

IN THE DAYS before "Hee Haw" and Matt Dillon on television, even before radio and movies, a political campaign was about the only show in town. The villagers therefore threw themselves into politics and campaigns with enthusiasm and abandon.

Pole Raisings

In the 1880s Pole Raising was the most popular political diversion. No presidential campaign was even a minor success without at least several poles with streamers and banners going up. While most were raised by individuals in front of their homes, the larger ones were community affairs that attracted thousands of people from the country side; a raising was usually a preliminary to an afternoon or evening of political oratory.

During the red hot campaign of 1880 more than ten poles were raised on Market Street alone. "The Republicans of this place," wrote the *News* on August 26, 1880, "succeeded last Saturday in raising their pole, which towers above any pole in the county, being 170 feet above the ground. It came near breaking in raising, but after it was up, by means of the guy ropes, they straightened it and it is now a beauty. Owing to the delay in raising and the falling of one of the supports, the speaking was not listened to by all, for speaking commenced before the pole was up."

Not to be outdone, the Democrats had plans of their own. "Last Saturday," wrote the *News* on September 9, "the Democrats of this place had appointed to raise a pole. People began to come in from the country early. The day was cloudy, and before noon there was a mist of rain, but by one it cleared off. The pole was a large and long one, made of three sticks of timber — all hickory of course."

Then follows the method of raising. While it is not completely understood, this was the *News* description. "The arrangement for supporting the pole was different from the usual method of setting them deep in the ground. It was to be raised between 2' supports, one on either side, let into the ground about 8 feet deep, tenanted at the bottom into a horizontal sill. The pole was hinged

POLITICKING

between these two upright pieces by a 2-inch iron bar passing thru them and the base of the pole. This required a good deal of work. At a few minutes before 2 o'clock the pole was ready and began to go up as far as the first jin pole would take it when it was propped and the jin pole moved to the base of the pole. The ropes and everything were attached and the pole began to move upward again, but it was stopped to throw down the support which held it while they were changing the jin pole. But when the cross prop was knocked out the pole began to sway to the north and in spite of the effort to keep it up, and before there was time to act, down it came with a crash and broke into several pieces. The middle piece, which was about 50 feet, split from one end to the other. No person was hurt, save a little child which was struck with a rope. Blame is rested principally on James Bennett. His attention was called to the fact, by Mr. Hariman, that all was not right, but he was not heeded."

Alleged "Dirty Tricks"

"Some one thought to foil the raising by carrying off the roller to the capstan, the nite previous. That aroused the indignation of both parties. Of course, it was laid to the Republican party, but whoever it was he received the censure of the Republican party as well as the Democrats. C. M. Houshour had loaned the capstan to the Democrats to raise the pole. But instead of receiving any thanks it has been expressed in his hearing that he did this as a pretended kindness, only to thwart the arrangement of the Democrats on raising their pole by subsequently hiring some one to hide the capstan roller. Mr. Houshour feels very much pained at hearing the insinuations cast at him. He is not a man that would feign such kindness."

Two Saturdays later, after their dismal failure, they were able to outdo the Republicans. While the manner of raising was not changed, an experienced pole raiser from Elkhart was hired and one went up successfully. About its raising the *Chicago Times* wrote: "Nearly 3,000 people were present when a beautiful pole, 186 feet high was raised. And in the evening the Hancock and English Club paraded the streets in procession bearing 300 torches."

"What a whopper," responded the *Nappanee News.* "Did one of those thirty-two kegs of beer that was sold on that day roll down the *Times* reporter's red-hot gullet that he did not report the facts? There were several persons in Nappanee on that same day, some that could count, and some that did count. There were, by actual counting, 158 torch lights borne mostly by boys and young men, not voters. There were not over 1,500 persons in town that day."

The Republican Wigwam

In addition to the full quota of poles raised in the 1888 campaign, the Republicans introduced a new twist. "Last Thursday and Friday," wrote the *News* on September 20, "the Republicans erected a large wigwam on the corner of Main and Centennial Streets. It was built by placing large poles in the ground, and covering the top with the same material; then over all the structure was placed brush and evergreens. Its interior is about 50 x 80 feet, with a speaker's stand at one end." For the 1888 campaign, amongst the Republicans at least, the procedure was to raise a pole on the square or elsewhere, then repair to the Wigwam for a spot of oratory.

For their part, the Democrats staged a giant rally and procession. "At the time of the grand parade," wrote the *News,* "the crowd numbered probably over 3,000 people. The procession formed on West Market Street, headed by the Nappanee Cornet Band, whose members wore rubber boots that seemed to take up the weight of each wearer in real estate at every step. After the band came about 100 horsemen, a wagon from Wakarusa containing ladies in regalia, preceded by the Longstreet Brass Band. Then two more wagons, representing Locke and Southwest, followed by still another from Union and Jackson Townships, with good looking ladies; followed by others of minor note. After marching around a few squares they were joined by the delegation from the south, headed by the Panama Brass Band, then came about 100 horsemen, a wagon load of ladies in regalia, followed by eight or ten other conveyances."

For as long as there has been a political scene, there has been outlandish campaigning, alleged "dirty tricks," bizarre election bets.

This page sponsored by HOCHSTETLER TIN SHOP; TRUMP CLEANERS; NAPPANEE READY MIX CONCRETE, INC.; ANGLIN ELECTRIC, INC.

(Top) PAVING, *Main Street, 1907. In background is the* AUDITORIUM, *which was started as a Town Hall!* (Center) OLD TOWN HALL. (Bottom) THE DUMMY *on the square, 1918-1926; from the only known photograph, in the* Napanet *of 1924.*

NAPPANEE has had three types of government and prospered despite each: Township (1874-1889), Town (1889-1925), City (1925-1974).

Under township auspices the village suffered from apathy and indifference; no elected township official really cared a hoot about the village's peculiar wants and needs. With parts of it in two townships, the neglect was bountiful. To the Assessor, Trustee, JP, Constable, the village was just another part of his domain. As for the Road Supervisor, he could be downright ornery. He could command or "warn out" every able bodied man 21-50 to labor on the roads two to four days a year (or hire someone in his stead) — and then not necessarily in his own neighborhood. In emergencies he could turn men out at any time, crediting their work against the next year.

Under township government village improvements — graveled roads, crossings, walks, street lights — needed to be done by subscription; the larger property holders paid heavily and dearly. When such improvements began to benefit others as much or more than them, their philanthropy was appeased. Larger needs — fire protection, adequate policing, waterworks, electric lights — went unattended.

Town Government

Talk and agitation for town government, and the authority and taxing power that went with it, started at an early date. In the village's fifth year, 1879, Anson B. Smith reported in the *Nappanee News* there had been a citizens meeting in Johnson Hall "to take steps to incorporate the town." For reasons not explained, those most interested in the project were not present to present their views. E. McDannel was elected President of the group. Beyond appointing a committee "to investigate the law on the subject, and correspond with neighboring incorporated towns in regard to costs" little came of it but agreement to meet again. Which may or may not have come to pass.

Even then, talk was cheap; it resumed in 1881. "We have not said a word yet about incorporating our town," editorialized the *News*. "But after seeing the progress that has been made this season and the growing need of better organization for protection and promotion of the interest of the place it seems that the citizens should now take steps toward bringing this about."

In citing the advantages of town status, the politicians and hangers-on spoke in generalities. Which was handy, for from the same set of facts, politicians — even the same ones — can prove exact opposites. In this particular instance, they professed to favor town government over township because town status was "practically *city* government in everything but name." By voting themselves a town, the citizens would become almost, if not really, a city. Which sounded good.

But town status caught on slowly. It was November 1888 before the preliminary steps were taken: surveying and mapping the territory, and taking a census of the residents therein. One-mile square, the proposed town

GOVERNMENT

was divided by Main and Market Streets into four wards: East of Main, north of Market, ward 1; west of Main and north of Market, ward 2; west of Main, south of Market, ward 3; east of Main, south of Market, ward 4. There were 335 voters therein.

In a citizens meeting in November, heavy support was given the project; the petition to the county commissioners was posted in a public place (the postoffice) as required by law. In a "Yes" or "No" vote in the office of attorney W. H. Dennis on December 18, there were 270 votes cast in favor of incorporation, 81 against.

The first town election was set for January 22, 1889. To be elected were four Trustees, one from each ward, a Clerk, a Treasurer, a Marshal. By consensus, the election was to be non-partisan. In an overflowing Hartman Hall a Citizens ticket was put together by caucus. While there was talk of another caucus, to give voters some choice "the matter of obtaining a room on the evening announced" prevented it. Some citizens however got together on their own and put up several candidates. On election morning still another candidate, Samuel Guiss, entered the race.

The results of the first town election, January 24, 1889 were:

Trustee 1st ward	George Arnold	203
2nd ward	John Hartman	120
2nd ward	Samuel Guiss	79
3rd ward	Daniel Lehman	121
3rd ward	Barney Uline	81
4th ward	I. R. Good	125
4th ward	C. A. French	76
Town Clerk	Perry Early	202
Town Treasurer	J. C. Mellinger	138
Town Treasurer	Will Miller	66
Town Marshal	S. W. Burns	195
	Scattering	13

All elected were from the Citizens Caucus.

The first Town Board meeting was held Monday, January 28, 1889, where it organized itself, and set a date for the next meeting. The following Tuesday Ordinance No. 1 was passed; they have appeared with alarming regularity ever since.

The first money in the Town Treasury came not from taxes, but from a license fee from a peddler of brush brooms in February 1889. But the next intended victim, a vendor of patent medicines, got away; he refused to stand for it, and sold his wares in the country.

For one or more officials there was a town election every spring. By the second election, there was general agreement that more than one slate of candidates was advisable. Two entered the race: Republicans and Citizens. But it was really Republican against Republican; except for a lone Democrat on the Citizens ticket, all were Republicans. In most elections Democrats and Prohibitionists, unsure of straight party loyalties, teamed up with dissident Republicans to field Citizens, or Peoples tickets. But Republicans dominated town elections, with an occasional Democrat or Prohibitionist squeaking thru to victory.

With one exception, most elections were uneventful. That of May 2, 1891 — the fourth — was anything but uneventful. Voters awoke election morning to learn they had no one to vote for; all the candidates had been disqualified!

This page sponsored by **Turkey Creek Church of the Brethren; Eta Zeta Chapter, Psi Iota Xi; L. W. Roose, MD & A. R. Graber, MD; Nappanee Lion's Club; Yoder Cabinet Co.; Nappanee Thursday Club (1899); Mr. and Mrs. John E. Zercher; Walter C. Anglemeyer, DO**

WALNUT STREET, about 1900, *looking west, judging from the angle and direction of the cast shadows.*

A new election law required a list of candidates be filed with the county clerk 15 days before election day. The Prohibitionists nominated a strong ticket, and in ample time, but forgot the filing until the deadline passed. The Republicans failed to even caucus until it was too late. A Peoples ticket was also put up too late. To the Democrats goes the booby prize. They'd talked the situation over days before the deadline, but decided against putting up a ticket. They were satisfied with the Prohibitionists — and felt they could not win anyway! In the absence of candidates, there was no election; the old officials remained in office.

There was one other election with a peculiar twist. It went off without a hitch. Afterward tho elected officials discovered they had not filed itemized statements of campaign expenses as required by a new law. Three days after the deadline their accounts were filed as follows:

George Weyburn (Rep.), Clerk He did not state the price as required; a new report was needed.	100 cigars
Eli May (Rep.), Marshal	$6 worth of cigars
Harry Green (Rep.), Treasurer	Nothing
Floyd Slabaugh (Dem.) Trustee	50c worth of cigars
Harry C. Fidler (Rep.) Trustee	Five cigars costing 25c

In 1896 salaries of town officials were: Trustee, $15; Treasurer, $15; Clerk, $50, all annually. Marshal, $25 per month. By 1900 Trustees were raised to $25 a year; and the Clerk to $100, while the Treasurer's salary remained unchanged. The Marshal's salary increased to $30 per month. By 1914 the Town Clerk was receiving $800 per year.

To say the least, Town Board sessions were folksy and down to earth. There was one in 1909 when the Board "made it a hurry up session and adjourned at 7:30 to attend church." And at another meeting in 1910, according to the *News*, "the board transacted business with overcoats and hats, only by light of one oil lamp and lantern, so there was no inducement to burn the midnight oil." While the reason was not stated, it is presumed it was in one of those periods when either the light plant or waterworks was out of commission for one reason or another.

City Government

In selling town status to the citizens, the politicians had stressed town government was really big city government in all but name. Forgetting their earlier sales pitch — as politicians are wont to do — they stressed other nebulous advantages of city status: 1) There would be a Mayor, someone to hold accountable for things that went wrong. Strangely, it was never mentioned the Mayor had no vote on legislation. In fact he could only try to enforce what a Council sent to him. 2) A Mayor would see the law was obeyed; it was not explained how. 3) Being a city would put the place on the map; it would mean prestige; 4) Town government was for villages. With its fine streets, homes, businesses, factories, Nappanee could no longer afford to travel village class; 5) Nappanee was the largest place in the state with town government. 6) For its size, it was the richest, with the most factories and employed. Which seems a reckless point, since all this had come to pass under town government, which was now suddenly out of date.

Petitions calling for an election were circulated in October 1925. On November 25, 1925 the votes were cast. The "Yes" squeaked thru with a majority of only 48. In fact, the West precinct (out of 290 votes) turned in a majority of 16 *against* the proposal. But the East precinct (out of 318 votes) turned in a majority of 64 favoring.

For the first City election, Tuesday, November 24, 1925, the Republicans and Democrats both entered slates. Elected were:

Mayor		Willard A. Price
Councilmen at large		George H. Fales, Ulery Shively
Treasurer		William Ulery
Clerk		Ralph Arnott
Councilmen	1st	A. E. Wright
	2nd	William Woodbury
	3rd	Warren Gonser
	4th	William A. Farrington

With the exception of Democrats Gonser and Farrington, all were Republicans.

The first city council meeting was held Friday, December 4, 1925, in the Town Hall, which became City Hall.

With the exception of 1933's election, most have been relatively uneventful. Then, however, the city faced the prospect of returning to town status; there was complete confusion about election laws, and the officials to be

This page sponsored by **DUNHAM & LOVE DRUG STORE**

elected. In the name of economy, but primarily to preserve large Democratic gains in city administrations in the Roosevelt landslide, new state laws postponed city elections for a year, but returned to town status all cities with less than 3,000 population "in the last census." With seventeen other cities, Nappanee faced return to town status.

Among the politicians and citizens, most preferred city status. With time running out, suit was filed in Elkhart Superior Court by various individuals seeking an injunction preventing the Mayor and City Council from calling an election, and thus automatically returning the city to town government. They challenged the constitutionality of the whole law. In the meantime a new local census showed a population of 3,091. For Nappanee at least the crisis had already passed when an injunction was issued against calling an election, leaving Nappanee with city status. But it was a close call.

Town Hall

In the absence of a Town Hall or other official meeting place, the first Town Board met in 1889 in the office of attorney Dennis, where elections had also been held. With incorporation, talk began of a Town Hall. In the spring of 1889 it was reported the Board would "build or cause to be built a building or office room in which deliberations of the Board could be held and which would also be a polling place." When this fell thru, the Board continued to meet in various unlikely places: An architect's office. The editorial rooms of the *Nappanee News*. A Trustee's Home. In rooms above Leslie's Store (first door south of Lord's).

With the building boom of 1899, talk began anew. In fact the Auditorium began more as a Town Hall than opera house. If the citizens would take on the second story for a Town Hall, Daniel Zook was prepared to build two storerooms on the northwest corner of the square (now Schultz). Support was massive. Within two weeks subscriptions totaled $4,670; a permanent Town Hall Association was formed. As the second floor developed tho it became an opera house; a jewel of an opera house, the Auditorium. But there went a Town Hall again.

The Board continued to meet in various places. For a time it met in the upstairs south room (fronting on Main Street) of the Hartman Building (G&N). For $24 a year the Board maintained quarters for its deliberations, and for the Clerk, Court, and Fire Department meetings. An offer of rooms at $8 a month in the new Dietrich Building was considered too salty; the Board moved instead into the Directors Room of the First National Bank. Then in 1914 into the basement of the Price and Price Building (now License Branch).

What ultimately became Town Hall started quite differently. In July 1916 two old buildings on town property on East Lincoln (the hose cart building, and jail) were moved into the streets; work started on a one-story combination structure for hose carts, jail, storage of street equipment, rooms for lights and waterworks.

In letting contracts a week later tho, another story was added to the structure. On February 20, 1917 the *News* reported "The Town Board met Monday evening for the first time in Council Chambers, second floor of the new town building on East Lincoln Street." It was inaugurated auspiciously enough; but not so much by formal dedication as by nearly two hundred irate citizens protesting the proposed sale of the light plant.

With city status, town hall became City Hall. Meanwhile the City Clerk's office moved about with the Clerk. Lester Deisch was the first to move into a permanent Clerk's Office in City Hall in 1935. Incidentally, in the early 1940s, in an unattended back room, almost the entire music library of the old Nappanee Cornet Band was found. While it was sifted thru, put in order, it has since disappeared again.

Municipal Center

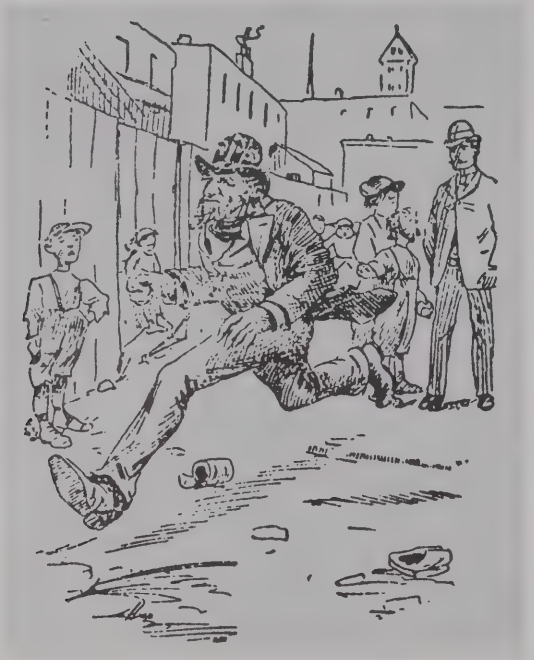
Tho it was erected in 1971, the Municipal Center actually had its beginnings forty-five years ago. In 1927, for a City Hall, the Council paid out $5,400 for the 66 x 132 foot lot on the northwest corner of Lincoln and Elm. The depression delayed start on it; instead the Community Building went up on the site in 1933.

Work on Municipal Center began April 27, 1970; at a cost of $325,000 it was completed early in March 1971. Altho the first Council Meeting was convened there in March 1971, it was not formally dedicated until August 22.

Nappanee's Mayors

1925-1929	WILLARD A. PRICE	(R)	547
	William H. Neher	(D)	368
1930-1934	WALTER ULINE	(D)	879
	George Fales	(R)	432
1935-1938	H. J. DE FREESE	(R)	807
	William H. Neher	(D)	527
1939-1943	RALPH ARNOTT	(R)	827
	Ray Walters	(D)	524
1943-1947	RALPH ARNOTT	(R)	
	(Unopposed)		
1948-1952	MINTLE E. HOSTETTER	(R)	596
	William Widmoyer	Citizens	479
1952-1955	MINTLE E. HOSTETTER	(R)	
	(Unopposed)		
1956-1959	J. MAXWELL CLOUSE	(D)	640
	Mintle Hostetter	(R)	617
1960-1961	J. MAXWELL CLOUSE	(D)	775
	Cecil Stalnaker	(R)	680
1962-1963	RALPH GREENE	(R)	
	Elected by Council to fill unexpired term of Clouse		
1964-1967	ROBERT SINCLAIR	(D)	885
	Charles Lehman	(R)	763
1968-1971	EVERETT PIPPEN	(R)	826
	Robert Sinclair	(D)	666
1972-	JAMES NEWCOMER	(D)	886
	Everett Pippen	(R)	834

This page sponsored by **HEPLER'S BARBER SHOP; GEORGE'S SERVICE; SEARS & ROEBUCK CATALOG STORE; KORNER BAR**



(Top) THE POLICE TOWER *(on North Main Street at the side of the B&B), which many people will recall. Unfortunately for memories, it was never built; it became a casualty of World War II. While this picture proves otherwise — that it was actually erected — it is a montage done by Lamar Stoops and L. M. Slabaugh (using a photograph of the Goshen police tower), to show the City Council how it would look on the square if and when constructed.*

(Bottom) *Contemporary (and perhaps local) artist's conception of Constable Johnson chasing a prospective juryman. Reproduced from the* Nappanee News, *December 17, 1891.*

WITH THE first Town Board in office, its President Arnold in January 1890 submitted estimates on the cost of a 14 x 26 "lockup or calaboose." His plans were scaled down by the Board to "a house 14 x 16 feet, and 8 feet in the clear with two good-sized cells and an entrance way for stove, etc." When sealed bids for the carpenter work were opened, Joseph Eash received the contract with his $28 bid; it was to be finished by April 1 on the lot between the Urich and Kehr property on West Market Street (vicinity of *Advance News* today). "The new calaboose is now ready to receive the offenders against the law," wrote the *News* on March 19. "It ought to be dedicated with the persons of some of the fellows who infest and raise a disturbance at the Nusbaum saloon with disgusting regularity."

What it looked like we don't know. What we do know, the Town Marshal was authorized to give it two coats of paint — red paint. It remained on West Market Street only a short while when, for $9, Aaron Johnson moved it to the town lot in the shadow of the waterworks, about where the old Town Hall stands today. There it served other purposes than incarcerating felons. When the town's tool kit came up missing in the mid 1890s it was learned the Town Marshal kept it "in and about the calaboose and from there it was borrowed by people who forgot to return it, or it was stolen by someone."

When the Town Hall went up there, the calaboose and hose cart house were moved into Lincoln Street. While resting temporarily in the street it lacked a floor, but it was presumed ready for its intended office. Many years later, Bill Miller recalled picking up a bicycle thief and throwing him in the calaboose while it was in the street. During the night, in one of Nappanee's rare jail breaks, the thief lifted up one side and crawled out.

In the new Town Hall, the jail — the years had changed it from a calaboose to a jail — became a part of the ground floor level.

The Constable

Beyond a Constable, whose bailiwick was the entire township, the village had no police protection to call its own for its first half dozen years. What needed attention — burglars, arsonists, horsethieves, felons — was handled by the Constable, his posse, and J.P. court.

Even in early days there was burglary in the village. "At two or three in the morning," wrote the *News* in June 1879, "C. Whiteman of the B&O passed Charpie & Fluegel General Store (Dunham's Rexall today). He saw lights on, and a strange man trying on hats. Whiteman went to the hotel and aroused Fluegel, Richmond, and two or three others and made haste to the store. By that time the thief was trying to open the money drawer. Richmond hailed him, asking what he was doing in there. 'The Kid' inside extinguished the light, and yelled back independently (sassed him). Help was summoned. Richmond fired a shot at him thru the front door; the thief fell and cried out. But it was a game, and a chance to get to the door and make his escape. He was captured and taken before Squire Peddycord."

CALABOOSE

There he blabbered out the whole story. He'd been drunk, accounting for his boldness in lighting the lamp. In fact, he'd lit and relit it five times, and he'd been in the store 1½ hours. Piled by the window he'd entered, was his intended haul. He'd opened six cans of oysters and drank the liquor, but left the oysters.

Interestingly the B&O agent awakened not the Constable, but rather the owner of the store, Charpie, and the manager of the Napanee House, Richmond. The Constable came on the scene later. John Kehr, the Constable reported the following day he'd taken the thief to Goshen where he'd pled guilty. He was sentenced to three years in the "Big House" in Michigan City — he left that afternoon to spend the same night there. Justice was swift. In less than 24 hours the burglar had been apprehended, brought before the court, sentenced and was on his way to prison!

There was arson to contend with. And run-of-the-mill theft of horses, turkeys, dogs, meat from smokehouses. Profanity in the streets, saloon brawls. Even safe blowers; one of the town's saloons had its safe blown in 1888. Not unlike today's dog problems, a big enforcement headache was cattle, hogs and chickens roaming the streets almost at will. "Last Monday," wrote the *News* in June 1885, "no less than 20 cows were grazing on the B&O park, besides a lot of hogs and Doc Swartz' roan horse."

It was 1881 before a night watchman joined the Constable in his rounds. Beyond shaking doors to see they were locked, what authority he possessed is not known. Law enforcement fell primarily upon the Constable, and his powers to deputize a posse. "Last Tuesday," wrote the *News* in December 1883, "in the office of Squire Best, Hank Stuckman had been arrested for petit larceny. The trial was proceeding all right and his lawyer was making an earnest plea for the defendant when it was announced his client had escaped the court. Constable Kehr deputized the court to go in hot pursuit. Several horses were taken from the livery and the chase became lively for about an hour, when Stuckman was overtaken a mile and a half north of town. He was manacled, taken into court, and found guilty."

When he wasn't in hot pursuit of malefactors, the Constable at times needed to run down prospective jurymen as well. In Squire Mapes J.P. court one day in 1891 a suit over old unpaid bills, with counter charges, was about to come before the court. Constable Johnson was getting a jury of six together, when one of his prospective jurymen, Dan Miller, suddenly bolted out the door, down the stairs and disappeared up Main Street, the Constable in pursuit. Small boys "guyed" the Constable at every jump. On Market Street Miller "made a spurt and gained the livery barn." But he reappeared just a mite too soon after the Constable passed; the chase was on again. In but a few more squares the Constable had his sixth juryman. But both were completely winded.

The Town Marshal

With town status in 1889, a Town Marshal became an elected official. His was the broad responsibility of keeping the peace, which involved wholesale arrests of drunks and disorderlies, and carting them off to the calaboose to sleep off their jags. Problems also continued with roaming cows, hogs, and chickens. On occasion he was called upon by the Town Board to inspect privies and garbage accumulations for compliance with meager sanitation laws. There were occasional larger crimes: burglary, theft, safe blowers. And problems of an unusual nature: Boys shooting out light bulbs. Boys catching freight trains as they chugged thru town. And catching bob sleds.

He wore another hat as well; that of Street Supervisor, not unlike the township road supervisor of old. If he was not one of the good guys — one of the boys — laboring on the roads under him could be as exasperating as under the township supervisor.

From the Town Board still other assignments came his way: Saw-dusting the fire plugs to prevent freezing, inquiring into the necessity of hitching posts or the number necessary to place them with regularity in front of all places of business.

City Police

With city government in 1925 the police became a department of local government, with the Chief of Police an appointed head.

While not a part of the squad, a "Dummy Policeman," "Dummy Cop," or plain "Dummy" stood in the middle of the square for some years after World War I. Four to five feet tall with a large red light atop, all traffic turned a square corner around it. "Don't cut the corner" was a common admonition of the day.

This page sponsored by **CHRISTNER OIL CO.**

(Above) HOSE COMPANY, GOODWILL No. 1, about 1893. *Standing, left to right: Frank Brown, Isaiah Rohrer, Charles McDonald, C. W. Johnson, Charles Gentzhorn, Harvey Coppes, William Woodbury, Claude Stoops, Amze Kauffman, John Shively, William Rosbrugh, Mike Hoover, Wallace Stauffer, Ed Weaver. Front row: George Doering, Jesse Neher, John Mellinger, "McGinty" Zentz.*

(Below) HOSE COMPANY, RESCUE No. 2, about 1900. *Left to Right: W. H. Strycker, Zellard Goodman, Grover Hummel, Ed Teall, Irvin Shrock, James Gentzhorn, Oliver Bickle, Willis Clinger, Harry Gonser, John Richmond, Chas. A. Burbach.*

SMOKE-EATERS

FOR Nappanee's first eighteen years there was little fire protection to speak of. What an individual could provide for himself (pump, ladder, pails, buckets), and share with others if the need arose, was his only protection. Yet every building was wooden. In the business district two-story structures already rose precariously side by side, increasing the hazard and potential for disaster. The whole village was one big fire trap.

In its fourth year, 1878, Nappanee celebrated the Fourth of July as never before. There were baseball, foot racing, climbing greased poles, catching greased pigs, fireworks, bowery dance. All the proceeds were to benefit the newly-organized fire department. While the celebration was a success, not as much can be said of the fire department. Nothing further was heard of it until December of that year when the *News* observed "Our fire department should be reorganized." Precaution remained the watchword.

The Bucket Brigade

But what happened if you discovered a fire? What did you do about it?

You ran into the street crying "FIRE!" as loud as possible. Those who heard took up the cry. While some rushed to the scene to get a bucket line formed, someone raced to the square to ring the fire bell atop the Corner Hardware. When that sounded the whole village turned out with buckets and pails. Water came from whatever source was available: a nearby well or pond or ditch. Wherever it could be found.

"Last Friday afternoon," began one of the earliest descriptions of a fire in the *News,* "the alarm of fire was given; it was found to be in the upper room in the east end of P. C. Stahley's shop (in the business district), but by the quick arrival of a hundred men or more, each prepared to fight the flames, it was subdued without any material loss. It was very fortunate that the fire was discovered so soon after breaking out, for in two minutes more it would have enwrapped that part of the building in flames, which could not have been extinguished with the ineffective facilities the town has for subduing fires."

The whole village was the fire department, and vice versa.

Some merchants took additional measures. "George Freese has taken precautions against fire in his building," wrote the *News* in 1882. "Large barrels containing water have been placed on the roof. Correct."

Peddlers, hucksters, and hustlers also recognized the peril — and the potential for themselves. Fire-fighting gear, most of it worthless, was peddled with abandon. "A number of our enterprising businessmen," wrote the *News* in 1885, "have invested in hand fire grenades." While they felt more secure with them around, there was small reason for complacency. "The fire grenades introduced here," warned the *News* some months later, "are no good. Instead of one being equal to forty pails of water as claimed, it is now vice versa."

While talk continued of a system of cisterns, and a hand engine — even talk of deep wells, tanks and hose carts — there was no immediate action. By 1889 there was talk of a chemical fire engine, basically a tank or cylinder mounted on a cart, with reel and hose and sixty gallons of fluid propelled by air pressure. To use a bad pun, none of this set the villagers afire.

Hose Companies

It took years of frustrating selling, but in the end the town went the waterworks route. By 1892 the town started sinking three deep wells and building a waterworks and storage tank, mains and hydrants. In June 1892 two "first class hose carts" were purchased at $80 each. On each was inscribed "Nappanee Fire Department." In addition, on one, "GOODWILL No. 1"; on the other, "RESCUE No. 2," the names selected for the first two hose companies. On July 8, 1892 the two companies, of twenty men each, elected the town's first Fire Chief, J. D. Coppes.

That was on a Friday evening. Two days later, on Sunday, they were called upon to fight the largest fire yet in Nappanee's history! Unfortunately the hydrants and mains were not ready. While the hose companies and the Fire Chief sallied forth, it was back to manning the bucket lines.

This page sponsored by CALLANDER INSURANCE, INC.; JOHN'S BUTCHER SHOP; NAPPANEE WOOD PRODUCTS; TEMPLETON OIL CO.

Meanwhile a third hose company, ALERTS, was organized by C. D. Volkman. Altho the apparatus was his private property, the company itself became a part of the Nappanee Fire Department.

Even with completion of the waterworks, and practice runs, the first for-real response to a fire call was less than a virtuoso performance by smoke-eaters and townsmen alike. Signals got crossed. With organization of the fire companies, the fire bell had hastily been replaced by the loud whistle at the pumphouse. But, because everyone had earlier answered to the firebell, the whistle aroused practically no one. After someone thoughtfully tapped the fire bell a few times the companies responded, in a fashion. ALERTS was manned only by the foreman; No. 2 was manned and taken out by two firemen and one townsman. No. 1 had disappeared; it had been taken out by a townsman and run down Lincoln Street to the fire rather than the hydrant! In doing so the rest of the men lost their bearings. No. 1 and Alerts had no wrenches; their tool boxes were empty. No. 2 had one wrench in its box, but it was never called for. Equal to the challenge, No. 1 spun out 300 feet of hose to get on the nozzle; the coupling was made with a stick of wood. With all the mishaps, the false starts, the time was brief before water was thrown and the fire was out.

As if that were not enough, disaster struck. On Saturday, January 21, 1893, an explosion wrecked the waterworks; both lights and water were in short supply for quite some time.

Despite all, the companies continued to meet monthly for business affairs. Each practiced running with the carts several times a week, the townsmen turning out for practice runs with as much spirit as for real fires — with so much enthusiasm in fact a notice appeared in the *News:* "Marshal Yarian requests that children be kept off the streets and on the sidewalks on the evenings the hose companies are out for practice, as some of the youngsters are liable to get hurt."

While the companies entered races with hosemen from other towns, the real race was always between the locals. There was always a wild and spirited scramble by the three companies to be first throwing water on a fire.

Still a fourth company was organized by Coppes Brothers & Zook. It was primarily for its own purposes, but it was also available for emergency town duty. But in a fire at the Coppes plant the cart was destroyed. The company offered a deal to the Town Board: Coppes Brothers & Zook would buy the ALERTS hosecart; Volkman in turn would use the proceeds to buy a hook and ladder truck. A bargain was struck. When the outfit arrived it was the center of attraction. "It is a beauty," wrote the *News.* "It was built to order of the best materials, and weighs about 1,000 pounds. It tracks 3-foot-6, which allows it to pass along the sidewalk in time of bad roads. Its equipment consists of one 35-foot extension ladder, two 14-foot ordinary, and one 12-foot scaling ladder. It carries two each of axes, crowbars, and picks, and one pull-down hook with pole and rope, four picks and other poles, and twelve rubber buckets. Aside from being elegantly painted, its hub caps and gong are nickel plated; it has four nickel plated lanterns and one swing torch."

Each company looked to its own financial support. Money was raised thru lawn festivals, strawberry festivals, ice cream socials — anything to pick up a few bucks. For the firemen there was no pay. They received only a rebate on town taxes and poll tax, the latter amounting to $1.50 per man. That changed on January 15, 1900. Thereafter firemen were handsomely paid: $3 per year per man — *less* a 50-cent fine imposed in each instance a member failed to answer the fire alarm. At the same time each company was cut to 12 men.

FIRE BELL, about 1885, *atop the Corner Hardware Building (Schultz site today). The pioneer store building burned in West Market Street, during the building boom of 1899.*

The Fire Bell

With the completion of the waterworks in 1892, and formation of hose companies, a new series of events was set in motion by cries of FIRE! Neighbors still responded; someone still raced to the firebell on the

This page sponsored by **G & N SUPER MARKET**

"ALERTS" HOOK AND LADDER CO., 1895. *(not necessarily in order) Harry Hemitt, James Gentzhorn, Manuel Yoder, Bert Gentzhorn, Albert Lehman, Charles Arch, Wesley Kring, Albert Dausman, Henry Hartman, William Newman, Henry Sawyer, William Rowell, E. Best, W. Gross, Charles Volkman.*

square. When that sounded, a series of toots started on the pumphouse and factory whistles. Immediately upon the alarm the man in charge at the pumphouse started all three pumps to provide plenty of water.

When the Auditorium was built, the old firebell was replaced by a new and larger one. At the same time four smaller ones were placed, one in each ward, from which fires could also be reported.

Fire reporting to "Central" by telephone started in 1908. With that arrangement, firebells went the way of the fire horse. Only the waterworks whistle sounded the alarms, one long blast for attention, followed by short toots indicating the ward.

There is one happy note. The old fire bell is still in our midst. It remained in the factory district for some years; then it was placed in storage. When it surfaced in 1937 it was hung atop a metal frame just off the entrance walk to West Park Pavilion, where it goes unnoticed, or is assumed to be just another dinner bell.

Motorized Fire Wagons

Goodwill No. 1. Hose House. Pipe Man. Alerts. Rescue No. 2. They and all the trappings of a swashbuckling era faded away with the advent of motorized fire wagons in 1919. Much of the spirit had gone long before. Thru internal dissension Alerts faded away about 1902. With only two town companies left, the swagger and bluster of the gay 90s went out of them. They continued to go thru the competitive motions as before, but they were a tamed and domesticated lot, a shadow of their former selves.

The end of the hose cart came in view in 1916 when the two hose companies sat down with the Town Board to talk over plans for a Carnival to raise money to purchase a motor fire vehicle. Not many months passed before sales demonstrations were arranged. In 1919 the Town Board shelled out $4,240 for a motorized job, the first such fire wagon to come to town. "It was given a tryout," wrote the *News,* "and water was thrown over the top of the flour mill, considered as severe a test as the truck would ever get." Six years later the city took on another. When it was tested, water was easily thrown over the water tank.

Beyond efficiency and convenience, motorized fire trucks added new dimension and stature to the office of Town Marshal. By order of the Town Board in 1920, Marshal Miller was "to run the motor on the fire truck twice daily, and see that the gasoline and oil tanks were kept filled, and the batteries covered with water." If he played his cards right, it was hinted by the Board, the Marshal might be appointed driver of the new truck. Exactly how it all came out is not known.

To clear the streets during fire runs, the first electric siren was installed above the phone exchange on September 30, 1926.

The Smokey Stovers

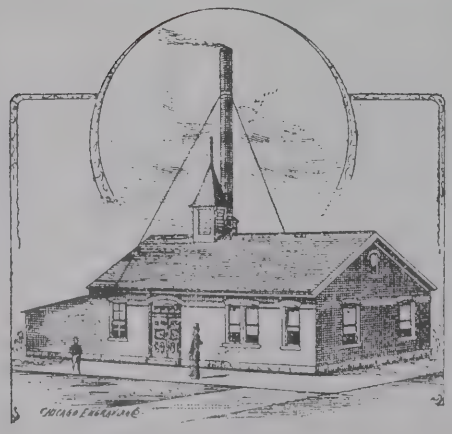
While the excitement and verve of hosemen are a thing of the past, Nappanee has one substantial advantage over all others. As real-life Smokey Stovers, Nappanee's fire department is several notches above any other fire department anywhere.

This page sponsored by **D. W. SCHNEIDER, D.C.; GILS AUTO SUPPLY; MAST UPHOLSTERING; FASHION-CRAFT PRODUCTS, INC.**

(Above) GAS STREET LIGHT, *1887. At the Corner Hardware, on the square. (now Schultz).*

(Middle TOWN WIND PUMP, *1879, which stood north of the Johnson Building, in Market Street. As it appeared prior to 1936 on the Buss farm. (Only known photograph, courtesy Mrs. Bertha Buss, Mishawaka).*

(Below) FIRST PUMPHOUSE, *1892. As it appeared before its destruction in the explosion of January 1893*



WHILE MOST TOWNS had a Town Pump, Nappanee had two, one in front of Hartman's Store (south third of G&N), and one on West Market Street at the north side of the Johnson Building. The former predated the town; prior to platting the village it had stood in a farmer's field. At its spout many farm hands had wet their whistles after hard work in the fields. As the village grew up around it, the old pump remained in service. But its location in the gutter contributed to early neglect. While it remained in use, the newer pump on the square became *the* Town Pump. It dated from mid-1879. "The work on the town well has commenced," wrote the *News* in July of that year. "They got water by boring twenty-two feet." A wind pump was raised, providing water for fires, for sprinkling the dusty streets, and for general watering purposes.

In common with all street wells, both were sources of irritation. "The two town wells," wrote the *News* in 1885, "are in a terrible state of disorder. The filthy water running along the gutters has seeped into them and made the water unwholesome for use, even for horses."

Even when they were cleaned up they caused complaints. "It would be a credit to our town," wrote the *News* in 1881, "were the dirt which was thrown out of the well at the corner, removed from the street. The dirt obstructing the crossing has been an annoyance."

When a real waterworks was rising on East Lincoln Street in 1891, when trenches snaked across town for mains, the old pumps had had it. Their days could be numbered on the fingers of a one-armed man. In March 1893 Marshal Yarian reported to the Town Board that Calvin Buss wanted to buy "the old wind engine for $20." The Marshal was authorized to sell it. A month later it was gone for good, moved from the square to the Buss farm six miles southwest of town. In its new location it performed its intended office until the tornado of July 1936 reduced it to twisted and crumpled metal.

Oil Street Lamps

Before electric lights came to the village, if you had business on the streets after dark, you probably wished you hadn't. People who needed to be out after dusk groped their way in darkness, and at their peril.

"Efforts are being made to secure street lamps," wrote the *News* in January 1882. Within a month four had gone up. At Hartman Brothers. At the restaurant (not identified). At Cowan's Corner Hardware (Schultz today), and at the office of Drs. Julien and Bowser on East Market Street. While they were better than nothing, there was not a great deal of difference. They were not dependable, especially during winter. In the coldest months the oil froze up, not thawing until spring. "At last the street lamps lighteth the town at night," wrote the *News* in April 1885. "The warm weather has thawed out the oil in them."

But if Nappanee was bad off, other towns were in the same fix. "It is said," observed the *News* in 1891, "Bremen's new sun-vapor street lamps are lighted at $2.50 per lamp per year. There are twenty-one of them

SERVICES

and the oil costs nine cents per gallon. Counting all the expense, including the first cost and wear and tear, and it is no small item for lights no better than tallow dips."

Waterworks and Lights

While neighboring towns piddled around with hand fire engines and dinky fire extinguishers, Nappanee profited by their mistakes. For adequate fire protection, and general water use, a waterworks and standpipe were necessities. Nappanee would settle for no less. Subscription papers could not provide such a system. Yet, even as a town with taxing powers, old tax laws gave only $150,000 valuation. With a two percent limitation on such improvements, there were insufficient funds there, too. When a new valuation totaled $600,000 in 1891, a petition for a waterworks promptly went before the Town Board. The question was put to a vote of the citizenry. They gave the waterworks plan a whopping majority: 352 for, 89 against.

"Nappanee Is In It," the *News* headlined the results. "The Greatest Advance in our History The band discoursed a few selections on the streets and there was general rejoicing."

Immediately $10,000 worth of bonds was authorized; they were snapped by quickly by Toledo investors. After several false starts a construction contract was let to James Madden of Fort Wayne, who by some strange coincidence bid exactly $10,000 for the work.

Meanwhile the Town Board dickered for electric lights with W. H. McIntyre, long time banker in Auburn, who moonlighted in electric light plants, owning several. Madden offered to put in a light plant in the extra room in the pumphouse, put in another boiler, furnish a man to run his electric plant and the town's waterworks, and furnish the town twelve arc street lamps. In return he asked rights to erect poles and wires, to occupy the pumphouse, the fuel for operations, and $25 a month toward the salary of his man. To him, too, went the rights to sell electricity to stores, homes, and factories.

To the Town Board it looked inviting. For the expense of fuel and $25 a month, the town would have twelve arc lights — and save the expense of a man to operate its own waterworks. An agreement was struck.

By June 1892 the pumphouse was nearly complete. While the incandescent light system was unfinished, the arc street lights were turned on for the first time on Friday night, July 29, 1892. They worked like a charm.

At the pumphouse site the wooden water tank neared completion. With it, the Board was less than happy; it leaked like a sieve. Telegrams passed back and forth between Madden and the Town Board. To stop the leaks, the contractor ordered Marshal Burns "to throw in more bran." But there was already so much "feed" in the tank, the request was disregarded. Madden was called to appear before the Board. Heated debate ensued. There were numerous staves with sap, the Board contended, and plugs in the greater portion of the staves "where unsound knots had been." Further, the Board contended, the tank leaked as fast as water could be pumped in, when it reached 10 to 13 feet. And finally, the Board claimed, the whole substructure was endangered.

With all this Madden pretty much agreed. But he insisted all was "in the natural order of things, and that any shortcomings would be attended to." The following day more bran was thrown in and the hoops tightened. That done, Madden announced the job was finished, so far as he was concerned. He would have the money due him; he was ready to pack up and leave.

With that bit of news the Town Board exploded.

As did the tank, so to speak.

"THE TANK FALLS," the *News* reported August 25, 1892, in a hastily printed Extra. "The Tank Falls with

This page sponsored by CURTIS TV MUSIC & APPLIANCES; MARTIN'S HARDWARE; CHRISTIAN LIGHT BOOKSTORE; DOUGLAS W. PRICE, M.D.

a Terrific Crash and Empties Two Thousand Barrels of Water on the Ground. While the Pumps were Forcing Water into the Tank a Top Hoop Gives Way — The Water and Timbers go in Every Direction. The West End of the Pump House Wrecked. Terrible Force of Water Tears the Earth Up 5 to 6 Feet Deep. No one killed."

But the crash at the waterworks site was a dull thud compared with the crash heard at Town Hall. Madden's work was mercilessly denounced. A long list of unforgivable sins and wrong doings were ticked off.

In time all was cleared away, repairs were made, and by late October the entire lighting system was in order. There were 150 incandescent lights in use; men were engaged in wiring the box factory with thirty-five more, and five or six more residences were to be wired. There were then twenty-four arc lights in use, including the twelve street lights. While there was general satisfaction with lights and water, there was an abundance of nitpicking, particularly with McIntyre.

But they were minor irritations. Like a thunderbolt, disaster struck again. The headlines of the *News* of January 25, 1893, reveal the extent of the catastrophe.

"BOILER EXPLOSION! One of the Steel Boilers in Nappanee Pump House Explodes with Terrible Force. The Building Entire Blown to Atoms. Two men killed and three badly cut and bruised — Concussion so great store windows a block away broken in. The shock felt in various parts of town. Bricks and timbers thrown in all directions. At a few minutes after four, Saturday afternoon one of the steel boilers exploded with terrific force, completely wrecking the brick building. Killed were C. A. French of the Town Board, and Daniel M. Parker, laborer."

To provide emergency water needs, a portable engine was rigged to one pump; a temporary pumphouse was thrown up. By July 1893 a new waterworks and electric building was rising from the debris. By August the street lights and incandescent lights, and two of the three pumps were in operation.

To add to its problems, the town purchased McIntyre's interest in the light plant in February 1896. For the first time, the Town Board was in both the water and electric business.

By today's standards early service was little to brag about. When the plant first opened, lights were furnished from darkness to 12 p.m.; from 5 a.m. to daylight. All-night runs were considered in 1898, but no decision was reached, primarily since an arrangement for such service already existed. "The Town Board," explained the *News* in November 1898, "has always given to any citizen the privilege of having the plant continued in operation for

(Above) PAVING WEST MARKET STREET, 1908, *prior to laying bricks that same year. Photographed from an elevation, probably the Auditorium fire escape on the square.* (Center) SPRINKLING WAGON, 1897. *Jaquith's sprinkler which, in vain, battled the dust clouds that swirled from the dirt streets.* (Bottom) WRECKAGE OF PUMPHOUSE, 1893. *After the explosion in January of that year.*

entertainment, parties, by paying for operating the plant and for the man firing, which was considered cheap at 50c per hour for the plant."

All-day service (not including Sunday) began July 1, 1912; full-time service, day and night, including Sunday began in mid 1914. Still, all-day service was a nebulous thing. With or without explanation or notice, service could be interrupted for hours or days at a time.

Meanwhile, rates were a sore spot. From the beginning water rates had been set by the Town Board on an individual hit or miss basis. Light rates had been set by McIntyre in an atmosphere of expediency; all his headaches were inherited by the Board. Both systems of rates were jumbles making little or no sense.

All came to a head in January 1899 when Hartman Brothers casually inquired if the Board had acted upon its urgent request for a reduction in its rates "so if it put in its own lighting plant there would be no complaints."

This shook the Board from its lethargy. A real effort was made to inject good sense, reasonable expectations, and costs into a fair system of rates. Out of those deliberations came a new rate chart, effective February 1, 1899.

Commercial rates (to 10 p.m.), 30c per light, per month; 5c additional from 10 to 12 p.m.

Residential, church, lodge, office, factory: 11c per light, up to 9 lights.

Water rates were never quite so troublesome. But it took a whole booklet to explain them. There is a copy of it in the Historical Room.

Always there was a razor-thin spread between costs and income. There was a constant problem of keeping current, or not falling behind in equipment and plant, let alone preparing for future needs. One of the first offers to buy the plant came in February 1917 from Hawks Electric Company of Goshen. While the sale was stopped dead in its tracks, massive problems remained. The plant's debt was at its legal limit. It needed repairs, modernization, machinery. To borrow funds for updating the plant a private company was formed, the town owning all the stock but with "two responsible individuals" holding a few shares "so the directorate would be complete." Thus Nappanee Utilities Company came into being in March 1917.

After a number of false starts the City Council in January 1966 voted to sell the light plant to NIPSCO. While the sale was vetoed by Mayor Sinclair, it was quickly overridden by unanimous vote of the Council, and put to a vote of the citizenry. On May 3 the vote was 809 to sell, 206 against. With acceptance of a check for $1,401,496 the sale was effective August 10, 1966. After seventy-five years the city was out of the light business. The plant was leveled to the ground in a matter of days in August 1972.

Streets

Even for horses and wagons Nappanee's early streets were a crying shame. Main and Market were dirt, with perhaps a little gravel here and there, with ruts, tracks, puddles, protruding roots, stones, manure. Around the hitching racks were plank floors that impeded runoff of water. Those were the good streets. Some of the side streets were even worse; on them it was not uncommon to detour around the remnant of a stump.

With rain and snow, the horses and wagons churned the streets into mud. Under a blazing sun, dust and dried manure particles swirled behind every passing horse and rig. Butchers and farmers, driving cattle and hogs thru the main streets to the stockyards, raised dust storms that were just impossible.

Graveling of the streets began in 1884 on nine blocks: From the railroad north to Market, Market Street east to Elm, Main Street north to Walnut, Market Street west to Clark. Something over 1,000 wagon loads were dumped on the streets, graded up to the center. The entire cost of graveling, grading and guttering came to $1,200, all paid by public subscription.

Puddles remained, and ruts and tracks. And dust. Sprinkling settled some of the latter, but only momentarily. It always came back. Dirt and manure continued to accumulate atop the gravel. "Below this three or four inches of mud and manure," observed the *News* in 1899, "there seems to be a good foundation of gravel."

Brick Paved Streets

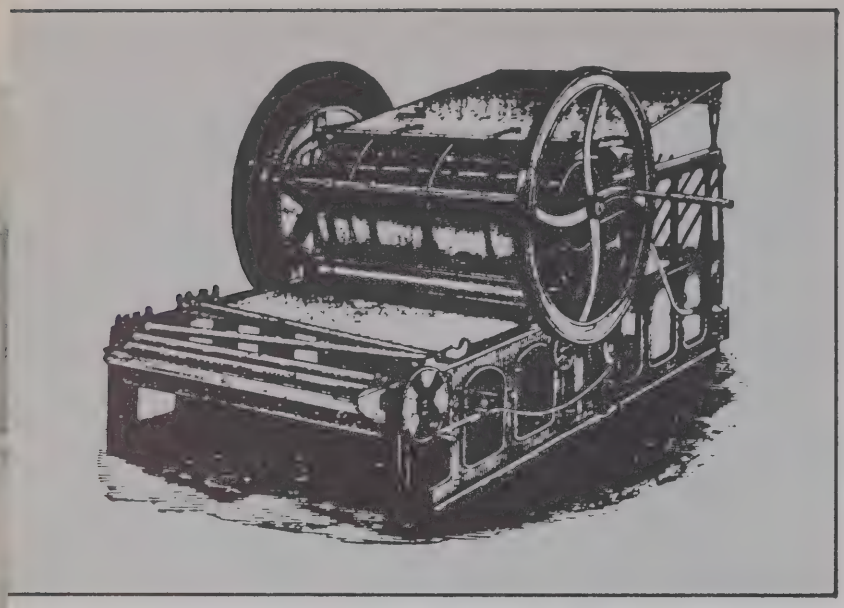
Petitions for paved or bricked streets went before the Town Board in 1899. It was February 1907 before contracts were let for two miles of brick pavement, over a concrete foundation, the full length of Main and Market Streets. Excavation began on Saturday, July 27, at the south corporation limit. The first half mile of concrete foundation, North Main Street to the square, was opened to traffic on Friday, October 25, 1907.

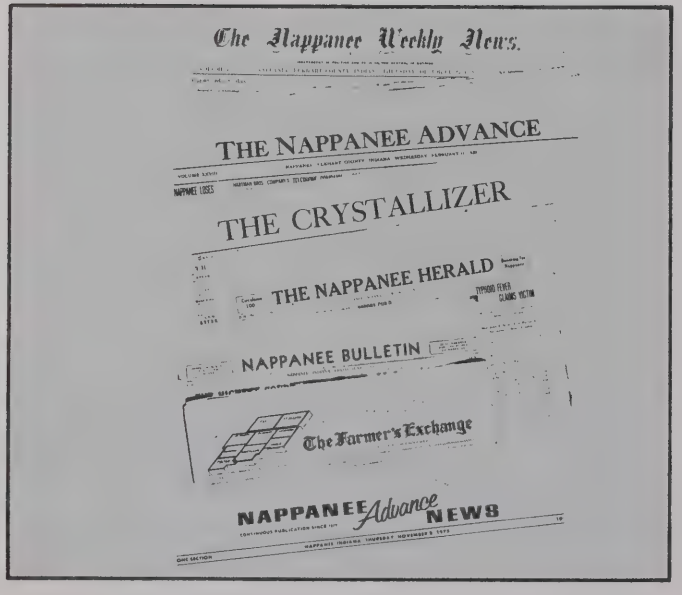
When winter halted work this was the situation: North Main Street was paved and open to the square. South Main Street was paved and open to the railroad; beyond, it was closed. West Market Street was partially paved, but closed. East Market Street had not even been excavated. Work resumed in the spring of 1908; by the end of June the entire two miles had been bricked. For concrete base, bricks, gutters and curbs the entire cost totaled $78,827.45.

Sidewalks and Crossings

If horses had it bad in the streets, people had it no better there or on the walks. The latter were made of planks; they came in all sizes, all shapes. One merchant's walk did not necessarily meet exactly on the same plane as his neighbor's. Crossing the muddy streets anywhere was an adventure. There were plank walks or crossings, two or three feet wide, at the corners, and generally at the alleys, but they rested precariously on the muddy bed below. Wagons and horses drove over them, squashing them further into the mud and mire. They needed replacement far more often than they received it. Brick crosswalks were first tested in July 1887. Samuel Coppes put down the first cement walk in 1885 at his residence, but his lead was not followed by many for quite some years.

This page sponsored by **EXCHANGE STATE BANK, Wakarusa, Indiana**
A Full Service Bank — Banking Since 1890





NAPPANEE'S first newspaperman, Anson B. Smith, was a life-sized character straight out of a raucous Western movie. In reporting the goings-on of a wild and woolly village he was frank, blunt, outspoken. While his newspaper was quaint and rustic by today's standards, when measured against his contemporaries it comes off as good as most, better than many. Before coming here he had been around the country weeklies; by the 1870s he was a printer at the *Wakarusa Sun*. On March 7, 1879 — for his $300 note, "payable as fast as he could" — he bought the *Sun* printing office, consisting of two hand presses and printing gear. By wagon and team he moved one of the presses to Nappanee and into rooms above the Corner Hardware (Schultz today). On Thursday, March 27, he issued 250 copies of Volume 1, Number 1 of the *Nappanee Weekly News*. (See reprint at back of this book.)

The village was never quite the same thereafter.

His personal, outspoken style of journalism — bluntness, bordering at times on vulgarity — pleased not a few, but alienated others. Still, his subscription list quickly grew to over 500. After getting out 33 consecutive issues, his numerous problems piled up all at once. On November 13, under shady circumstances, a Goshen constable carried off his press, presumably for non-payment of his note. Since it was not yet due the press was legally recovered and returned. Smith got off twelve more weekly issues.

His subscription list reached 863, in the county second only to the *Goshen Times* and *Democrat*. Still, the day of reckoning arrived. His mortgage came due; Smith had not the funds to discharge it. On February 9, 1880, his paper passed into the hands of C. H. Whiteman and E. D. Stoner.

The New Editors

It was a motley crew which took over. Stoner had just sold out his interest in the meat market; Whiteman was agent for the B&O. Since neither knew beans about printing, Smith stayed on to handle that chore. Within a month Whiteman withdrew in favor of W. H. Holdeman. By July Holdeman was in complete charge. He remained for eight years. During his tenure the paper was adequate, but less than inspiring — and tame compared with the Smith era. Under Holdeman, in the issue of June 11, 1885, the first colored ad in Nappanee newspaper history appeared. Holdeman sold the paper to Gordon N. Murray, effective February 2, 1888.

Murray was as able an editor as Nappanee has had. His tenure, 32 years, was the longest in local history, and one of the most productive. Those things we accept as commonplace — lights, water, fire department, paved

(Top) CAMPBELL NEWSPAPER PRESS, *moved into the* Nappanee News *office in April 1884.* (Center) WASHINGTON HANDPRESS, *the style of hand press on which the first issues of the* News *were laboriously printed.* (Bottom) MASTHEADS *of newspapers printed at one time or another in Nappanee. (Because no copies of the* Crystallizer *exist, the masthead here is a simulation.)*

THE PRESS

streets, to name a few — came sooner thru his constant prodding of the powers that be.

Unlike his predecessors, he did not have the newspaper field to himself. Within months he had competition from the *Crystallizer.* And when it left, from *The Advance,* started by the very man from whom he'd bought the *News.* Locally, Murray was the first to issue an Extra — the seven o'clock extra of August 25, 1892, with complete coverage of the bursting of the water tank. His *Industrial Nappanee* of 1905 is a history unto itself; even to this day it is a superb document of the town and its history to that point. His boldest adventure was putting the *News* on a daily basis. In that endeavor he might have succeeded beyond the month of its existence had it not been for the foot dragging of postal bureaucracy. Under him colored comics started on a weekly basis on February 22, 1911.

He was appointed postmaster on April 6, 1914. In April 1920 the Murray Printing Company was purchased by the Publications Board of the Brethren in Christ Church (Evangel Press). On June 2, 1920, the *News* was absorbed by the *Advance,* its younger rival.

The Crystallizer

James L. Ernest, a former employee of the *News,* brought the *Bristol Crystallizer,* a Prohibitionist weekly, to Nappanee in September 1888. Six columns wide, four pages, it was printed on the press of the *News* until January 1890 when its own printing office was opened in the upstairs rooms of the Bechtel Building (Martin's today). Even with a sizeable Prohibitionist constituency, including many of the leading businessmen, the pickings here were slim. On December 29, 1890, the office was moved to Goshen where the paper became the short-lived *Goshen Crystallizer.* Only one issue (volume 3, number 22 of September 4, 1890) was seen in recent years; even that has now disappeared.

The Advance

Most of the issues of *The Advance* have disappeared as well. Only a few issues are in the Historical Room at the Library. Its history therefore cannot be very well documented. Even the date of its founding cannot be stated with absolute certainty; it has been a matter of contention even among its editors and owners. As nearly as we can tell W. H. Holdeman returned to Nappanee late in 1891 to get it under way. In format, size, and news coverage it greatly resembled the *News.* The various editors and owners were W. H. Holdeman, Thomas F. Stevens, D. O. Batchelor, L. D. Landis, C. A. Collins, John R. Wagner, E. V. Blair.

The Advance News

On June 2, 1920 E. V. Blair purchased the goodwill, name, and subscription list of the *Nappanee News* and consolidated the two papers into the *Nappanee Advance News.* Editors since have been: Chester Boone, Harvey O. Field, Thomas and Rita Myers, Joseph Zalley and Donald Nichols. The paper was sold to the Pilot Company on May 31, 1969.

The Farmer's Exchange

While never a part of the town press, *The Farmer's Exchange* was started in Nappanee on November 5, 1926, by V. L. Stump, W. E. Yeater, Clarence V. Boyer, and C. L. Thomas. It was moved to New Paris in December 1927.

Nappanee Herald

With the celebration of Nappanee's Fiftieth Year in 1924, David H. Smith put together a 20-page booklet, *Nappanee's Golden Jubilee.* Out of it came the *Nappanee Herald,* the first issue of which was dated "for the week beginning Sunday, February 15, 1925." It was initially a 6¼ x 9¼ paper, four pages, three columns; later issues were increased to tabloid size, 8 to twelve pages, five columns. It was distributed free, circulation averaging 1,500 copies weekly. All issues were printed by Frank Rehrer's Quality Print Shop (now Fairchild Printers).

Nappanee Bulletin

In the midst of the wrangle over the erection of the Community Building in 1932, the first issue of the *Nappanee Bulletin* was essentially a puff sheet favoring construction. It was generally a 12½ x 19" paper, four pages, five columns wide. Distribution was free, with circulation averaging 1,500 copies weekly. While it was edited by Edgar N. Ludwig, it was printed by Quality Print Shop (now Fairchild Printers). In all, nine issues appeared.

This page sponsored by **COPPES, INC.**
Inspired Kitchens Since 1876

(Top) CHARCOAL KILNS *of Wilson Slabaugh, 1889. The building in the background is the flour mill.* (Center) NAPPANEE CANNING COMPANY, *later the hemp factory, before it burned to the ground in 1917.* (Bottom) FREESE'S SONS CREAMERY, 1895. *Dating from 1882, it was the first creamery in Indiana. Its founder, George Freese, was the first, anywhere, to manufacture and use butter coloring, now a standard practice everywhere.*

USING THE TERM as broadly as possible, manufacturers (and processors) have been inventoried at various periods in the town's growth. For the very first one, W. M. Starr, editor of the *Goshen Times,* took a ride through Locke and Nappanee in November 1875; he returned home to write an account of what he found here. "The most extensive manufacturing establishment," he wrote, "is the Planing Mill and Box Factory of Joseph Strohm, which employs a number of hands in dressing lumber and manufacturing boxes, the latter for a starch factory at Elkhart. A few more excellent energetic men as Strohm would make a lively town."

When Anson Smith inventoried commercial activity in the first issue of his *Nappanee News* on March 27, 1879 he had a little more to work with; he listed: "Saw & Plaining (sic) Mill of Frank Zinn & Co., *manufacturer of bent stuff;* Plaining (sic) Mill of Nathan Spencer, *manufacturer of starch boxes;* Saw Mill of J. C. Mellinger & Co., *manufacturer of hard and soft lumber;* Good & Shrock Sawmill, *one of the best mills in the county;* Volkmann Bros., *manufacturer of staves, bed slats, table legs, and most anything that can be sawed of wood;* Stave & Heading Manufactory of Nettrouer Brothers." To this list, others, which reflect both manufacturing and retailing, should be added: "Burns & Kreider, *pump manufacturer;* Fisher Brothers Brick Yard; Shingle Factory of Levi Holdeman; Jacob Weaver, *wagon maker;* P. C. Stahley, *manufacturer (and dealer) of furniture of all kinds, most of it homemade."*

As with local retailers and professional people, Nappanee's industry is the subject for a full-length book. In the limited space available here only a few unusual incidents or little known facts can be recounted.

The Box Makers

Next to lumber in its infinite variety, box making was a vital industry in the early days. When the village was barely six months old, Joseph Strohm brought his planing mill from Locke. In a new two-story 40 x 70 frame building on the site of today's flour mill, he was soon turning out boxes as well, for Elkhart Starch Company. Within a year or so Strohm sold out to Spencer and Eshenbaugh; in April 1879 they sold out to Nappanee's pioneer businessman J. C. Mellinger & Co. ("And Co." was the brothers Coppes, John, Frank and Samuel, who in 1876 had purchased a one-half interest in the Mellinger Sawmill).

Box makers vied for records. In April 1879 D. L. Boyd was judged by his peers "the champion box maker of Elkhart County;" he was making 200-300 boxes per day, of six-pound and 48-pound capacity. Ed Sanders set a new record in March 1880 when in nine hours and 40 minutes he nailed 320 boxes.

By wagon loads they were hauled to Elkhart; in the largest shipment to that date, in May 1879 A. S. Cleveland's team "walked away with 327 boxes as easy as though it was nothing." Wagon shipments ceased in February 1880 when the B&O provided a "gondoley."

WORKSHOPS

Higher and larger than the normal box car, and lettered with the names of the two concerns involved, it held 1,600 boxes.

In November 1882 the brothers Coppes purchased the Mellinger half of the business. Coppes Bros., and Coppes Bros. & Zook continued to make boxes until May 1902 when the company merged with Nappanee Furniture Company.

There were other box makers as well. In a two-story frame building, separated only by a drive from the Coppes plant, Stauffer & Sons Box Factory was in operation as early as 1894; it continued until 1897 or later. E. Martin & Company (E. Martin, W. E. Smith and A. M. Wilt) began manufacturing lock corner boxes for optical goods in May 1898. It was succeeded in November by Smith, Anglin and Hettinger, employing seven people. It ceased operations sometime after 1905.

Charcoal

"Hartman Bros. are manufacturing charcoal," the *News* reported in July 1882, in the eighth year of the village. "Five to eight hands are employed. Up to this time six thousand bushels have been manufactured. The price per bushel ranges from 8c to 12½c."

In the absence of kilns, Hartman Bros. used the primitive method of manufacture. In the area of Mutschler's office building, billets of wood were stood on their ends, forming a conical pile. Openings at the bottom admitted air; a central shaft served as a flue. When covered with turf or moistened soil, firing was started at the bottom and gradually spread upwards and outwards. If all went well, the result was charcoal. Locally, it was used in welding and blacksmithing. Of the thousands of pounds shipped elsewhere, its use is not so well known; quantities are presumed to have gone into medical uses and into gunpowder.

In the fall of 1882 Hartman Bros. erected two large ovens, thirty feet in diameter, each with a capacity of upwards of fifty cords of wood. For the first year of production, B&O freight records indicate 866,400 pounds were shipped from here by rail. Additional quantities were hauled away by wagons. Dan Hartman recalled there was rarely a day at least one wagon load did not leave the premises; he recalled personally hauling many wagon loads to C. G. Conn in Elkhart for use in the manufacture of band instruments. A third kiln was added in the summer of 1883.

By 1889 Wilson Slabaugh owned and worked the pits. While the enterprise was still lucrative enough, it was a smoky business which constantly irked the neighborhood. Several times he was called on the carpet before the Town Board; he was described as "willing to do anything fair, even to retiring from the business — if he was allowed ample time to consume the stock on his ground." Operations ceased late in 1890, the first casualty locally of the environmentalists.

For his final year, B&O shipments from here totaled seventeen carloads; consumption locally and in the area served by wagon delivery is not known.

When abandoned for charcoal burning the kilns were used for a time for storing "coal oil" and other similar substances. To make way for the Nappanee Canning Company plant in 1894 they were razed to the ground with charges of dynamite.

Home Town Bricks

Most of the bricks in Nappanee's old landmarks were made here in Nappanee. Prior to 1879 Fisher Bros. Brick Yard was set up between North Main Street and Clark Street, across from the school. Clay for the product came from the North Clark Street area. While it is the recollection of pioneers that Fisher Brothers made the bricks for the 1878 school house, and for Nappanee's first brick house of 1879 (still standing at 202 West Randolph), it cannot be documented from contemporary records. John Arnold's Brick Kilns are shown on Walter Uline's town map of 1884; they are presumed to be the earlier Fisher Bros. kilns.

J. M. Delotter came here in 1884; he began making tile in his plant on forty acres west of town. Business was brisk; for increased capital he took in J. C. Mellinger as an equal partner. As Delotter & Mellinger the company built a new plant nearer the railroad, just beyond the west corporation limits, and began the manufacture of bricks. Most of the buildings that rose from that time forward were erected with Delotter & Mellinger bricks: Nappanee Furniture Factory (now Mutschler Bros.), Nappanee Lumber & Mfg. Company, Coppes Bros., the Auditorium, waterworks, most of the churches, and business houses and others.

"Delotter & Mellinger," wrote the *Goshen Times* in July 1891, "is the largest brick and tile factory in Northern Indiana. They have a capacity of manufacturing 37,000 bricks daily. The clay is of the best quality,

This page sponsored by DAVE'S MEN'S WEAR; MARTY & TED FARM EQUIPMENT; HOLLANDER MOTEL; FARMWALD LUMBER & HOME CENTER, INC.

(Top) NAPPANEE FURNITURE COMPANY, 1897 *(now Mutschler Bros. Company). Uline's Butter-Tub factory is in the background.* (Center) ULINE BUTTER-TUB FACTORY, *later Nappanee Lumber & Mfg. Co., immediately east of Mutschler's plant.* (Bottom) BRICK AND TILE WORKS, *1897. The round structures are kilns.*

and the kilns hold 200,000 bricks each." In 1891 over one million bricks were made, and 350,000 tile. In the following year production was nearly doubled. The plant was sold to Nelson Rood in April 1898.

Nappanee Canning Company

When Nappanee Canning Company, organized by local businessmen and farmers, opened its doors in the fall of 1894, it was touted by the *News* as "the largest (Factory) ever built in the U.S., with the latest improved machinery." Whether this claim was based on fact, or was only local pride asserting itself is not known.

Canning started on Saturday, August 18, 1894 with 540 cans of corn. In its first year the company put up 178,000 cans of corn, 180,000 cans of tomatoes, and 14,000 cans of pumpkins. Wages totaled $3,507.50, a sizable sum for that day. While the tomatoes sold quickly, cases of corn filled the warehouse. In the second season only tomatoes and pumpkins were canned; at season's end the warehouse was sold out.

To extend the canning season, black and red raspberries, peas, string beans, and beans were canned, in addition to tomatoes, corn and pumpkins. "Boston Baked Beans, Nappanee's Pride," pork flavored and ready to eat from the can, became a best seller. At peak operations as many as 125 people were employed; a day's pack reached 22,000 cans.

After four years of operation, problems piled up; the company was dissolved in 1898 amidst a cloud of lawsuits and charges of chicanery. With benefit of little more than a cosmetic job (the same officers, directors, and stockholders remained), the company became Union Canning Company. Tomatoes became the staple; the pack held steady at about 400,000 cans a year, with upwards of 200 barrels of catsup. Employment reached 167. By 1903 tomatoes had become unprofitable; pumpkins, pickles and kraut became the staples.

On November 1, 1904, the plant was purchased by Laughlin Bros. When the business was sold to Luder-Shaw in 1913, the old plant (Mutschler Bros. site) became the hemp factory; a new cement block kraut factory went up on the B&O at Onionville, a mile east of town. It was purchased by Libbys in 1917. It closed in the 1960s and was leveled in September 1971 to make way for the new Fairmont Homes plant.

Hemp Factories

Not since the days of the Pharaohs of Egypt had the harvesting and processing of hemp changed a bit. After cutting, the stalks were spread thinly over the stubble in the fields and allowed to ret — to rot. At precisely the right moment, the stuff was stacked; when dry it was fed lengthwise into breakers or crackers which cracked the woody stalks in pieces, but not the fiber. The latter could then be shaken out and baled for rope, etc.

One harvesting problem was partially solved locally in 1913 when Ulery Brothers rigged up a power reaper or mower. Field retting remained a time-consuming headache; in the fall of 1913 New Process Hemp

Manufacturing Company, which had leased the old cannery, tried to solve it. By-passing field-retting, the company by "secret process" proposed to ret green hemp chemically, and kiln dry it. What had taken three months they proposed to do in fifty-five minutes. History was in the making. It was the first chemical-mechanical process ever tried to prepare hemp for market. If it worked it would revolutionize the whole industry. Incidentally in 1915 the *News* quoted an unidentified government report that 96% of the hemp of the entire country was in the Nappanee fields!

Anticipating the plant's opening 800 tons of green hemp were purchased and piled on the commons around the factory; another 800 tons was piled on every vacant lot in the south end of town. The whole area resembled "an African village."

Working day and night, the plant's goal of 8 tons daily was never reached; production never ran over 1,800 pounds a day. Two problems remained. The rettery tank was too small; there was insufficient drying space. With all its money tied up in green hemp, the company was in a cash crunch. It went into bankruptcy in July 1915. Laughlin purchased the equipment and went back into production. While the "secret process" had never been proven or disproven, he returned to field retting, but added dry kilns. Production reached 5,000 pounds a day. In January 1917 the first of 100 carloads of hemp hurds (a by product) left the plant for a paper mill to be made into fine book papers; 1,200 tons were to follow. Things were looking up, when disaster struck. Fire started in the storage area; within an hour the mill was reduced to rubble.

The plant was rebuilt in the southwestern part of town. Back in operation it was quickly in financial hot water. Receivers sold it to South Bend interests. On December 16, 1920 there was another fire; only the dry kilns and power plant were spared. It was not rebuilt. Even after several more fires in the vicinity (west of Locke Street, along the B&O), the brick stack of the original mill still stands tall over the area.

Strikes

"A strike occurred in town on Monday. Three brick cleaners demanded an advance." With those two brief sentences the *News* reported the first known strike in Nappanee, in 1886, in the town's twelfth year. Who the brick cleaners were, what they were demanding, what they got, we don't know.

Nappanee's second recorded strike, in 1888, at the Nappanee Furniture Company, in the old wooden Red Shop at Elm and Centennial (Evangel Press site) is better documented, but not much better understood. "A small strike," wrote the *News* on March 29, "occurred at the Furniture Company's shop last Monday morning in which the day men participated, demanding an increase in wages from $1.25 per day to $1.50. It was a very sudden and unexpected demand on the company and not much thought given it by the men. In consequence it was short lived. In fact it came to a sudden end without arbitration."

Another strike came in 1895 when the tomato peelers at Nappanee Canning Company (Mutschler office site) "went out." They had been getting 2½c per pail for peeling tomatoes; they allowed as how they should have 3c. It was a most unusual strike. It came at the tail end of the season when canning had almost ceased. Too, "it caused more amusement than trouble," wrote the *News*, "as work was not delayed."

Of a far different nature was Nappanee's first big strike, in 1903. Its potential for disaster for the company, the men, the town was enormous. When the Coppes, Zook & Mutschler seven p.m. whistle broke the evening silence of Monday, January 26, only a handful of the usual night force of sixty-five to seventy men was on hand to go to work. Most were "gathered on the street corners and in the stores," as reported by the *News*, and later in a union organization meeting in Hayes Implement Store, discussing their reasons for being absent from work. While the issues were not monumental in character, they were important to the various parties involved; unfortunately in the small space available in this book the story cannot be presented adequately or fairly. A summary of the events can be read in the fuller version of this book in the Historical Room in the Public Library, or in the *News* of January 28, February 4 and 11, 1903.

Out of that first large strike came the first labor organization, as such, in Nappanee, the Nappanee Federal Labor Union. What became of it is anyone's guess; nothing further has been found concerning it in the newspaper files of the period.

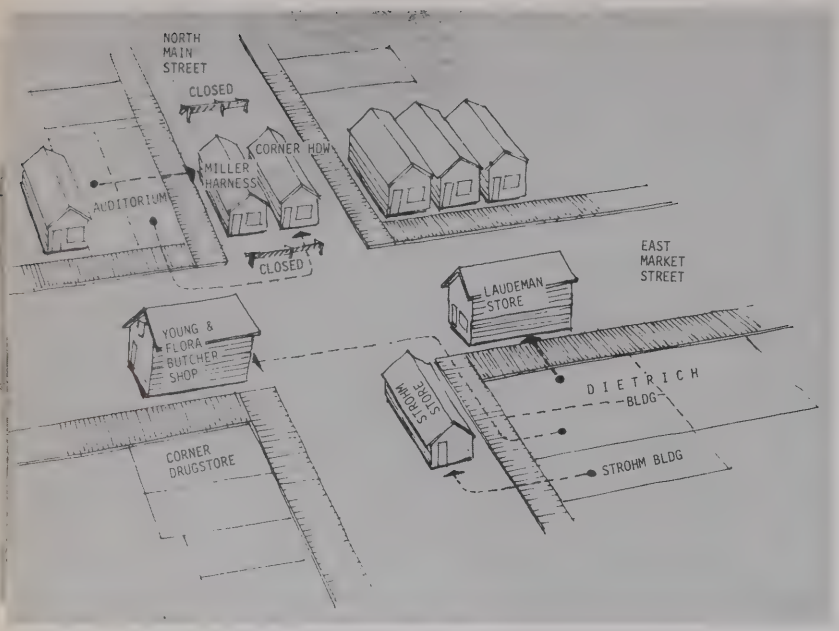
Trailer and Mobile Home Pioneers

In 1946 there were approximately ten firms making trailers in Elkhart, one or two in Goshen. In Nappanee it is a question whether Walco was first, or Franklin Coach Company. Drexel Lewis recalls that he was mustered out of military service in November 1945; that is a date he is not about to forget. He also recalls going to work here for Walco a month or two later.

At about the same time, Raymond Martin recalls walking into Richardson's plant in Elkhart, and seeing Franklin Newcomer tacking on crude canvas roofs, that were pulled down over the sides and held by a moulding. The two talked over prospects of making trailers on their own; Newcomer took his tools home with him that same evening.

Franklin Coach Company, named for Newcomer, was formed. In a fifty-foot quonset building, approximately 25 foot wide (which is still in use), they started building their first trailer, a 23-foot job with two wheels (in the early days all trailers had but two), plywood sides, and a canvas roof waterproofed with a brush. Before it was finished, Newcomer withdrew from the partnership (he of course went on to start his own Fan Coach Company); Martin continued on his own. For painting and varnishing, the early trailers were hauled to Paul Abel, who had a building for the purpose (the old Yellowstone plant) on his mother's farm. In 1947 Abel purchased a half interest in the firm; in 1958 he purchased Martin's interests as well.

This page sponsored by F. D. BORKHOLDER & CO., INC.; CLIPP AUTO SUPPLY



(Top) STREET POSITIONS *of business houses during the building boom of 1899.* (Center) MAIN STREET, *looking north from atop the flour mill.* (Bottom) SOUTH MAIN STREET, *looking north.*

JUST TO LIST the business houses that have existed in Nappanee in the past 100 years would fill a book as large as this — assuming it were even possible to learn much about a substantial number. It might be wiser therefore to inventory the types of business places at various periods in our history, with perhaps a few words about some that have achieved special distinction or notoriety.

When Anson B. Smith started the *Nappanee News,* the first issue of March 27, 1879 listed all the business houses he saw as he walked the streets of the village. They were:

Cheap John, *ready-made clothing, hats, caps, trunks, collars and ties;* Postoffice Bazaar of J. B. Peddycord; Binkley & Company Drug House, *drugs, patent medicines, perfumery;* Eli McDannel, *boots and shoes and custom work;* Fred Bryson, *general blacksmith and wagon repairing;* Nappanee Hotel, Fred D. Richmond operator, *a first-class house, rooms neatly and comfortably furnished and bill of fare reasonable;* Charpie & Fluegel, *dry goods, groceries, clothing, boots and shoes, notions — also grain buyers and shippers of grain, having purchased 50,000 bushels of wheat that season;* Cowan Hardware Store, *hardware, stoves, tin ware, roofing, guttering and spouting;* Hartman Brothers, *dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, notions, buyers and shippers of grain, 50,000 bushels of wheat bought that year;* Seirer Brothers Drug and Grocery House, *drugs and groceries;* Carriage Shop, *carriage and wagon business* of Frank Zinn & Company; Boot and Shoe Shop of Richard Sanders; Restaurant of S. A. Cleveland; Harness Shop of D. Copenhaver, *manufacturer of harness;* Two Restaurants, J. C. Buterbaugh and Daniel Kile; Livery Stable of P. S. Hare; Brick Yard of Fisher Brothers; C. M. Housouer, *mover of buildings;* Jewelry Store of P. C. Stahly, *repairs, watches, clocks, jewelry;* Burns & Kreider, *pump manufacturer;* Shingle Factory of Levi Holdeman; Charley Fahlstrom, *sorgum mill;* Meat Market of Stoner & Martin; (then operating in the old passenger house); Millinery Store of Caroline Holdeman; Gunsmith Shop, William McCleland; Barbershop of Henry Saisline; Attorney, I. H. Hall; Justice of the Peace, William F. Peddycord, *also insurance and collection agent;* Saloon of David Gentzhorn; Temperance Billiard Hall of Edward Brown; Picture Gallery of Iden; Jacob Ferrington, *plasterer;* Jacob Weaver, *wagon maker;* Nappanee News; P. C. Stahley, *(manufacturer and) dealer in furniture of all kinds, most of it handmade;* Physicians, Drs. Julien, Smith, Swartz, Stutman, (sic) Miller.

Smith's headcount was not precisely accurate; a week later he added the names of several additional businesses: Jacob Hemminger, boot and shoe maker; John Kehr, agricultural implements; Charles Biehl, harness maker; Joseph Strohm, agricultural implements.

In still another inventory of business and professional people, in 1897, the following were listed; it is probably not complete.

Two newspapers, The News, and The Advance;

DOWNTOWN

Coppes Hotel; Dr. J. D. Scott, *dentist;* Brown Brothers, *agricultural implements;* Weiss & Frevert, *hardware;* Samuel Miller, *harness maker;* Shively & Nunemaker, *shoe store;* Fidler & Rickert; Neff Brothers, *implements;* S. W. Craige, *groceries and provisions;* J. S. McIntaffer, *real estate;* Lehman Furniture and Undertaking; Hartman Brothers, Henry Fischer, *drugs;* Miss Pearson, *millinery;* Strohm Confectionery, *fruits, cigars, newspapers, lunch counter;* Farmers & Traders Bank; three manufacturing blacksmiths and horse shoers, Wilson Neely, Gran and Rowell, John Smith; Young and Price, *cider makers.*

Cowsheds

A fetching piece of downtown Americana that passed away in the 1880s was the cowshed. Altho present-day dictionaries indicate they shade cows — and those four-legged critters roamed at will in the early village — that was not their purpose then. Rather, they were wooden awnings, or porches extending over the board walks, sheltering pedestrians from the blazing sun in summer, from rain, sleet and snow at other times.

They were commonplace in the 70s and 80s, but the advent of the canvas awning brought them into disfavor. "The Town Council," suggested the *News* in April 1885, "ought to have passed a law prohibiting any business man on the main streets from putting up cowsheds to their store fronts. Canvas awnings are the only things used for that purpose, in this, the latter part of the 19th century, and to put up anything else looks like retrograding. With an awning the light in the store can be regulated." At least one businessman attended to the hint. Barney Uline hastily tore off the cowshed in front of his place (Lords today) and put up an awning.

In May 1890, in reporting the end of an era, the *News* wrote: "Last week the last mark of antiquity of the town in the way of the wooden porch in front of the Dietrich Building (Dunham Rexall today) was removed to give place to the more modern awning."

Editor Gordon Murray would roll over, etc., to see the cowsheds he helped to eliminate so many years ago, back with us in abundance — even for the atmosphere they supposedly create.

Napanee House

While the Coppes Hotel was our best, the Napanee House was the most picturesque. Straight out of a Western movie set, it dated from the first year of the village. "Sam Hartman is running a very neat hotel," wrote the *Wakarusa Sun* in June 1876. "He has as much (sic) customers as he can wait on." For its day it was a well appointed inn, the envy of many an older town. As many as twenty-two regular boarders sat down at the tables; as many as fifty-one transients registered in a single week. For drummers its sample rooms, where their wares could be laid out for inspection, were a must.

Altho it was originally the Nappanee Hotel, for most of its years it was the Napanee House. "On looking at the large sign," wrote the *News* in 1888, "we noticed the name is spelled with one p. On inquiry it was learned the former landlord had paid for the sign at $1 a letter, and by dropping one letter he saved a dollar."

One of the hostelry's most memorable events came in 1904. Early in November one of its "attachees" came down with smallpox. What to do with the patient? And with those exposed? For any to remain in the heart of the business district was chancy; but who was about to take any of them in? The Town Board rose to the occasion with plans to buy two houses "on the outskirts of town." Into one they'd move the patients (there were then three cases); into the other, those who had been exposed. There was one problem; there was no house for sale "in the outskirts." To fit up a temporary "hospital" the Board purchased an old house near Locke. News of the buy spread like wildfire. Farmers arose against a "pest house" in their midst. A committee from Locke protested loudly and vigorously; threats of burning the place were bandied about. Meanwhile a "hospital" was found and fitted up in Nappanee; four patients and nurses were moved in. No new cases were reported; Napanee House was disinfected. Within several weeks the scare was history.

The years passed it by. The Coppes Hotel was built; it became *the* hotel. Napanee House became a boarding house. In August 1907, for $500, the buildings and lots were purchased by the First National Bank. While the Annex was fitted up for temporary banking rooms, a new

FIRST TOWN PUMP. *If you look closely, and have 20/20 vision, the pre-Nappanee town pump (originally in the fields of the Metzler farm) can be seen at the extreme left, in the gutter. The latter circumstance contributed to its early neglect. Of interest too is the high side walk in front of Hartman Bros. Store.*

brick building went up on the north lot (across the alley from Metzler Shoes). Another of Nappanee's landmarks had come to the end of the line. But not quite. The hotel building was moved onto the two south lots, where it remains today, behind a later facade, as Mishler's Grill.

Hartman Brothers

As unlikely as it may seem, Hartman Brothers was once the most important store in this area; from distances up to 75 miles people came by train to shop there. Wrote the *Goshen Democrat* in 1904: "It is undoubtedly one of the largest, if not the very largest store in the county, especially in point of floor space. (It was then three store fronts wide). There are also additions, annexes and vast warehouses."

The brothers Hartman — Tobias, Jacob and John — were farm boys with only a common school education. With his brother Samuel, Jacob started a mercantile business in Hepton in 1871; a year later they moved to greener fields in Locke. Samuel retired; John took his place. In 1876 Jacob and Tobias came here, leaving John to tend the store in Locke. In 1881 the firm moved into the new double rooms in Stahley's Brick Block (G&N now); two years later the Locke store was merged with it. With stock of $10,000; sales in 1882 totaled $60,000. With twenty people on the payroll the company shipped grain, owned a sawmill, manufactured charcoal, shipping 10,000 bushels a month — not to mention various individual activities.

When the town was eleven years old, in 1885, the company installed a "car system" cashier which eliminated money drawers. "All the changing," wrote the *News* in 1885, "is done by one person seated at a cashier's desk, from which little cars that run on wires, are sent to the different parts of the two large rooms. The cars contain a cup into which the money is placed, and by a gentle shove they are sent spinning back to the cashier's desk." In one form or another a maze of spinning cars survived into late years.

John and Tobias died in 1918, Jacob in 1922. Between 1925-1927 the single department store was broken up into three separate business houses, a grocery store, a dry goods store, and a clothing store.

This page sponsored by **ARTISTIC HAIRDRESSER; MILLER'S MEMORIAL SERVICE; MAIN GRILL; BONTRAGER CONCRETE SPECIALTIES, INC.**

Business in the Streets

In the building boom of 1899 modern brick buildings on the square changed Nappanee's skyline, and just about everything else in sight. On the northwest corner of the square (Schultz today) the Auditorium was rising, with an opera house upstairs and two business rooms below. Across the square the Dietrich Building (Dunham's today) was rising two stories, a half block along East Market with three business rooms, and on South Main with two more. Adjoining it on the south Clayton Strohm's brick building was going up (Central Barbershop today).

While this changed the square for the better, for a time at least there were nearly as many merchants doing business in the streets as elsewhere. For, as the lots had been cleared for construction to begin, the old wooden buildings had been moved into Main and Market Streets; while foot traffic and rigs and wagons detoured around them, the tenants continued to buy and sell (in the streets) as usual!

Clayton Strohm had started it all in April 1899 when he asked for (and received) permission from the Town Board to place his wooden building (the old postoffice) in a "street position" in South Main Street, facing north toward Market, ten feet from the sidewalk.

Dietrich had asked and received similar permission to move the Laudeman Building off the corner lot (Dunham's) into East Market Street (facing west) north across the sidewalk; and to move the Young and Flora Butcher Shop building into Market Street as well, but across the square on West Market (facing east) next to the Corner Drug Store.

Not to be outdone, Daniel Zook had asked and received permission to move the Corner Hardware building into North Main Street east of the sidewalk; and the adjoining Miller Harness Shop into the south side of West Market Street, next to the butcher shop, already there in "street position." So badly was North Main Street clogged with buildings, it was closed off to traffic in May.

Even as the new brick buildings were going up, not everyone was pleased with all the commercial activity in the streets. Some objected loudly and abundantly about the inconvenience of driving their rigs around the obstructions. There were complaints of another nature. George McLaughlin the saloon keeper complained that Zook's buildings in the street were "shutting off the benefits of the arc light on the public square." He requested an arc light outside his saloon; it was forthcoming from the Town Board, with the costs charged to Zook.

Even in the halls of justice the effects were felt. Union Township's Justice of the Peace, McEntaffer, was quartered in the second floor rooms of the Strohm Building. When that old wooden building was moved into South Main Street, part of the structure naturally hung over the center of the road into Locke Township. To make certain he was operating in his own bailiwick, McEntaffer moved his courtroom desk to the east side of his room, taking it back once again into Union Township!

One by one the old buildings were moved onto other business lots. When it came the turn of the Corner Hardware, it was inched along West Market Street toward a new site on B. Uline's lot (Shell today). Before it got there disaster struck. "At about 12:30 last Saturday morning," wrote the *News* on November 29, 1899, "somebody set fire to the old building when Johnson (the mover) had nearly completed the work of moving it. There seems to be little or no question as to the fire having been of incendiary origin. Someone living in Nappanee is responsible for the fire."

Thus, while the square was vastly improved with new buildings, one of the town's oldest landmarks, dating from 1877 or earlier, went up in smoke.

Bath Houses

Until the institution of indoor plumbing, even for some years afterward, people took a bath in a tub, if they had one accommodating enough. Or in a bath house or bathroom in a public place, generally a barber shop. In other towns there were public bath houses as late as the 1940s. They sometimes led to misunderstandings. Citizens, enraged by the erroneous notions they'd be forced to bathe, stormed half-finished edifices to prevent their opening. In this respect, local people kept their cool; bath houses were fairly popular with many, downright gracious with others.

Who had the first one we don't know. Probably it was in an early barber shop. In at least one instance, a local saloon (unfortunately unidentified) furnished such amenities.

"G. Frank Brown," wrote the *News* in September 1890 of the first recorded public bath house, "has the new bath room at his barber shop ready for business." Since the item speaks of "the new bath room" we can only presume there must have been an earlier one. If its hours were the same as the barbershop's, it was open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. or later; until 11 p.m. or midnight on Saturdays.

"Hereafter," wrote the *News* in June 1891, "G. F. Brown's bath rooms will be open on Sunday morning from 7 to 10 a.m."

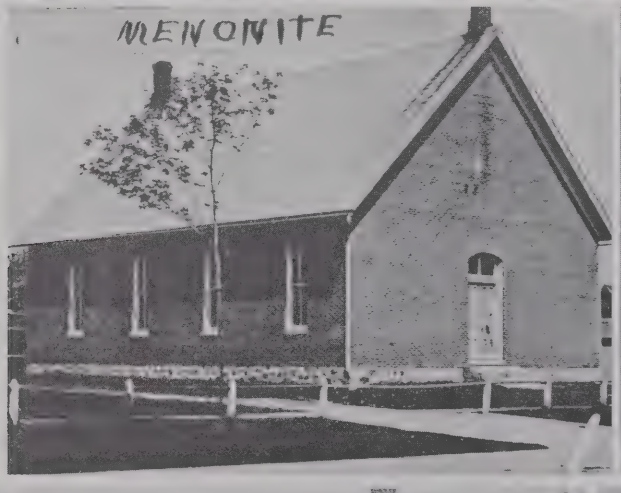
There was also a public bath in the barber shop (probably Silberg's) in the Coppes Hotel, shortly after it opened. As nearly as can be determined Chauncey Miller had one in his barbershop when he was on South Main Street (Central Barbershop site today); Miller definitely had one in his shop on North Main Street well into the late 1930s or early 1940s, until he closed his shop.

Incidentally, the first printed rate book of the waterworks in 1892 set prices for all bathing tubs:

In private houses, first bath tub, *for the season*	$2.00
Bathing tubs in hotels, each per annum	4.00
Bathing tubs in barber shops	4.00
Bathing tubs in saloons	4.00

Unfortunately, "the season" referred to above, was not explained.

NAPPANEE'S CHURCHES, *1910 enlarged from a single postcard. The captions, by an unknown lexicographer, are an integral part of the original, and have been left as they appeared thereon.*



CHURCHES

The Union Sunday School

The Union Sunday School, also known as the Sunday School Institute and recorded as the oldest organization in town and as having existed three years before the town started, met in the Cable school and then in the old school house on North Main Street. A newspaper comment in 1891 states that it "has been drummed around from place to place and is the parent of all Sunday schools in town."

At one time it met in the United Brethren church but a new discipline within the denomination that churches must have their own Sabbath school "threw the Union Sunday School out of a building." Records show that it continued to be in existence a number of years, meeting in various places, eventually contracting with the Evangelical Mennonites on East Centennial Street to provide "certain assistance in building" for the use of the church building.

On several occasions a vote was taken for disbandment or continuation. Every time friends would "come forward and say no; and again phoenix-like, it would arise and it is now a strong organization of one hundred seventy-five pupils." On one occasion "it was a lively corpse and new interest was manifested." The town was frequently canvassed for funds for its promotion.

In March of 1898 it disposed of its property "at public auction at the door of the Evangelical church to the highest bidder one organ, tap bell, and song-books, and proceeds (after expenses) will be paid into the treasury of the Elkhart County Sunday School Union. It is not known whether it will be succeeded by a denominational Sunday School or not." That seemed to conclude its activities in Nappanee.

First Mennonite Church

This is one of the first churches in Nappanee, although standing outside the town limits for a number of years. Its earliest history can be found in records dating back to 1854 when members originally worshipped in homes, a schoolhouse one mile east and one half mile north of Nappanee, then the schoolhouse on North Main Street, having donated money to its construction in 1867 for the privilege of using it for their services. 1875 marks the formal beginnings of the church with thirteen "charter" members. The first permanent building was erected in 1878, part of which is incorporated in the present one on West Market Street.

For many years it was known as the Amish-Mennonite Church, later the West Market Street Mennonite Church, and in 1926 the First Mennonite Church of Nappanee upon affiliation with the General Conference of the Mennonite Church of North America.

The United Brethren Church

The United Brethren Church, organized in 1875, first held its services in the schoolhouse in Nappanee, a congregation made up of Nappanee members and fifteen members who transferred from the Locke church. A building, located at the southeast corner of Elm and Market Streets, was dedicated in January 1876. In 1887 the building was sold and moved a half block farther west; a new veneer brick structure was erected on the old site and dedicated in February 1888. Through the years remodeling is recorded, the latest in 1928. After a denominational merger in 1946 with the Evangelical Church, the Nappanee unit became a part of the Evangelical United Brethren denomination, meeting separately until 1959 when a complete local merger with the Grace E. U. B. group created a church worshiping as one fellowship. The building is now occupied by the Calvary Baptist Church.

North Main Street Mennonite Church

The North Main Street Mennonite Church can trace its beginnings back to pre-Civil War days to Mennonites who came to this area from Ohio and Pennsylvania. For a number of years the Culp schoolhouse north and east of Nappanee served as a place of worship. In 1867 the first North Main Street schoolhouse was constructed; there the group shared Sunday meeting times with another Mennonite church organization. Upon the erection of the

This page sponsored by **Roger & Phil Hahn, Auctioneers; Mr. and Mrs. George G. Rose; Albers Milling Co.; Wright-Yoder Funeral Home; Nappanee Volunteer Fire Dept. Auxiliary; Hepton Union Church; American Legion Aux., Unit 154; Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Chapman**

The original Methodist Church.

new brick school house across the street in 1878, the old school was purchased at public auction by the church group and remodeled somewhat and new seats were installed; services were held every four weeks. May of 1880 is considered the real organization date of the church. By 1893 a new meetinghouse was built at the present location, on a lot deeded to the trustees by a member. For a long time the congregation was one of the smallest Mennonite churches of northern Indiana but has grown to be one of the largest of the Mennonite Church of Canada and the United States Conference.

The Church of the Brethren

The German Baptists, also known as Old Order Dunkers, were in Nappanee when the town was only two years old. Early services were held in the "Hall" (Stahly, later Hartman) and the United Brethren church. The *Nappanee News* reported in 1883 that "foundation work is progressing finely on the Dunkard brick church on the eastern limits of town;" by May 1884 it announced that the church building "is now completed and will be dedicated with two ministers speaking, one in English and one in German." It was the third church to be built in Nappanee. The group had grown out of the larger Turkey Creek brotherhood but by 1899 became a separate district by name and organization.

Numerous remodeling and improvement programs came throughout the years. In February 1960 a new edifice on Mack Drive and Centennial Street was dedicated.

The United Methodist Church

Originally the Methodist group shared the United Brethren church building; in the early 1880's they were "in great need of a house," selected plans for one on a lot purchased in 1883, and by February of 1888 dedicated a church structure at the present site on East Market Street. The *Nappanee News* gave much credit to the Ladies Aid Society for raising initial funds for building the church. Worship services continued there until it was "outgrown by membership." The old was torn down, a new one erected and dedicated in June 1916. For years it was known as the Methodist Episcopal Church, having its name changed to the United Methodist Church when the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren denominations merged in 1968.

An extensive building program was effected in 1973 including plans to dedicate the new sanctuary, offices, and multi-purpose room during Nappanee's Centennial, which also marks the church's one-hundredth year.

The Evangelical Church

In the early 1890's the Evangelical Church began as the Nappanee Mission Group to which a Circuit Rider was assigned, meeting in a home of a member or the Hartman Hall. In 1892 a small wooden frame building was constructed at the East Centennial address on a lot donated by an interested citizen. The church was used with another denomination until about 1897. This building was remodeled several times during the years between 1897 and 1945. After a 1946 merger with the United Brethren denomination the church became known as the Grace Evangelical United Brethren; and in 1959 a complete merger united the two local groups into the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Nappanee, which met as a single unit until 1968 when the E. U. B. merged with the Methodist denomination to become a part of the Nappanee United Methodist Church. Then the building was sold to the Living Gospel Church.

First Brethren Church

Having severed relationship with the Old Order Dunkards (Church of the Brethren) in 1882, a group of women organized a Sisters Society of Christian Endeavor in 1888, meeting in homes and halls often used for church services. Within several years it had grown in membership; services were held in the Evangelical and the United Brethren Church. Later the group became known as the Progressive Dunkers, the Progressive Association, the Progressive Church, and eventually as First Brethren Church.

Two lots were purchased on West Walnut Street where a sawmill had previously stood, and by February 1897 a church building was dedicated. A newspaper article of March 1897 stated that it was "made up of people of thrift and economy." At that time the church was served by a circuit pastor. Through the years extensive remodeling programs took place. That building and contents were destroyed by a disastrous fire in February 1945. Soon plans were in effect to construct a new church; the present structure was dedicated in 1948.

Missionary Church

Work of the United Mennonites in Nappanee was an "appointment" as early as 1877, with a class officially organized in May 1885 under the name Evangelical United Mennonite. There were eleven charter members. In July 1889 a tent "tabernacle meeting" was held on the

This page sponsored by AYR CABINET COMPANY; HELEN'S BEAUTY SHOPPE; MT. TABOR CHURCH OF GOD; LU ANN NURSING HOME

"old ball ground" north of the brick school building and continued for two weeks. Early members met on Sundays in the United Brethren church and held weekly prayer meetings in private homes. They frequently held revival services in "halls" and sometimes in "Hartman's Opera House." The Evangelical church later shared its facilities until January 1898 when the congregation's church building was dedicated at its present location on South Locke Street. By that time the denomination was known as the Mennonite Brethren in Christ. In 1947 the name was changed to the United Missionary Church, and finally the Missionary Church in 1969. As with most churches in the community, extensive remodeling programs have indicated growth in membership.

St. John's Lutheran Church

As early as February 1884 a Lutheran class was organized in Nappanee. Prior to 1896 Lutheran families in Nappanee attended church services in a nearby community south of town or on the second floor of a store building in Nappanee. In 1900 nineteen charter members organized St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and by October of 1901 the group dedicated its own church on ground donated by a member; that constitutes the sanctuary of the present place of worship on South Main Street. Since 1956 St. John's has been an independent parish and since 1969 has had a full time pastor.

First Presbyterian Church

In September 1899 a petition signed by twenty-nine persons was sent asking the Fort Wayne Presbytery to organize a Presbyterian church in Nappanee. The request was granted and the church was established within a couple weeks with nine charter members and with a larger number promising to become supporters. It remained a mission church for a number of years. Having no established meeting place for services the members used other churches or rented halls in the downtown area. After six years the growing group selected a lot on the southwest corner of Market and Clark Streets for a church building. November 1905 marked the date for services in the basement of the church, "the first time in a church home of their own." The church was dedicated in September 1906, serving as the house of worship until a new one was dedicated in 1964 north of Nappanee on Road 19.

Old Order Amish

In the early 1840's Amish families came into the southwest section of Elkhart County and the extreme northeast section of Marshall County, some coming from Ohio, originally from Germany, and others originating in Pennsylvania. These were two unrelated groups of families. From these most of the area's Amish people are descendants. Today there are fifteen separate districts of the Old Order Amish.

Tenets of the faith are conservative in all characteristics. Church services are held in homes which are especially designed to accommodate the congregations of the separate districts. Backless benches and hymnals are transported from one meeting place to another for services lasting two or three hours with sermons and hymns in the German language. A simple meal follows the religious services.

Maple Lawn Amish Mennonite Church

The Maple Lawn Amish Mennonite congregation left the Old Order Amish sect in 1943 to form its own denomination which adheres to doctrines less conservative than its parent church's. Services are held on Sundays and Wednesday evenings in their church building situated one mile north and a mile and a quarter west of Nappanee.

Bethel Conservative Mennonite Church

The membership of this church consists of families who once were a part of the Old Order Amish groups but who preferred to have a fellowship a little less conservative than the original religious sect demanded. At first they were a part of the Pleasant Grove Conservative Mennonites southeast of Goshen, building and dedicating their own church home in February 1955. This is two miles north and nearly three miles east of Nappanee on County Road 50. The denomination is affiliated with the Central Mennonite Church embracing Indiana and nearby states.

Berea Christian Fellowship

Organized in 1963, the Berea Christian Fellowship is an independent Mennonite group consisting of nearly fifteen families who worship in a church located southwest of Nappanee on the South County Line Road.

Turkey Creek Church of the Brethren

Turkey Creek is the name of the third oldest organization of Brethren in northern Indiana, whose boundaries in its early history included more territory than it does today. It really is the parent church of other Brethren groups in the area. Nappanee's Church of the Brethren was an outgrowth of this larger congregation.

Meetings were originally held in one private home, later in several separate homes, then in a schoolhouse. Finally a house of worship was built in the early 1850's, which was occupied until 1878 when the present church structure was dedicated at Gravelton four miles east of Nappanee and about a mile south, the old being retained by Maple Grove members. So it, too, is one of the community's earliest churches.

Union Center Church of the Brethren

One of the oldest churches in the area is the Union Center Church of the Brethren, celebrating its 100th birthday in 1959. The early church members came as settlers to Indiana mainly from Ohio, Canada, and nearby counties. Those members met in homes and then the Union Center school house which had been built of logs in 1838. In 1866 a building three miles east and two

This page sponsored by HOCHSTETLER CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.

miles north of Nappanee, before the town was in existence, was constructed from bricks made on the building ground on land donated by a member. Much of the labor was provided by members of the congregation. A series of remodeling programs followed, the most recent one dedicated in May of 1959 after one hundred years of growth and influence in the community.

Millwood Christian Chapel

This church, originally of the Eel River Christian Congregational Conference, in 1956 celebrated its centennial. For nearly twenty years it has been an independent church, having withdrawn from its earlier affiliations. For eleven years the group's services were held in the Millwood school house. In 1867 a church was erected at the present site southwest of Nappanee on ground donated by friends of the church. The main sanctuary has undergone much change over the years but it is basically the same structure as was built in 1867.

South Union Church

Early settlers organized and built a church nearly in the center of Locke Township in 1871, making it the first meeting house in the township. All church denominations of the village of Locke used the building. Because another church built later in the northern part of the township was called the North Union Church, this one became known as the South Union Church. The original wooden structure was replaced by a larger brick one in 1905 to accommodate a growing congregation. It remains non-denominational and a strictly community church. It is best known to Nappanee because of the cemetery directly south of the church where many of her deceased citizens are buried.

Island Chapel United Methodist

Missionaries representing the Evangelical Association began their religious work in northern Indiana as early as 1850, ministering principally to the German-speaking people living there. The Island Class, as it was first known, was an appointment on the Elkhart Circuit of the Illinois Conference. In subsequent years it came under the charge of other circuits, including the Nappanee Circuit in 1911; eventually it became a student charge.

The first church house, located on County Roads 1000 and 425 south and east of Nappanee, was dedicated in 1877; after 1912 and through the following years considerable remodeling and building programs were enacted.

The church, once the Evangelical, then the Evangelical United Brethren, became a part of the United Methodist denomination when a merger of the denominations took place in 1968.

Hepton Union Church

Situated on the Hepton Road, an old Indian trail in the northwest corner of Kosciusko County, the Hepton Union Church has had a diverse history. The first church building was constructed in 1878; that building was destroyed by fire in 1901. It was soon rebuilt by the Lutheran and Dunkard people. Later the Brethren congregation joined those two denominations.

Doors of the church were closed in 1918 but were reopened about 1930 as a union congregation. The structure was destroyed by the tornado of 1937 and was again rebuilt in 1938. During the last ten years the church has been completely remodeled and beautified.

Union Grove Brethren in Christ

A small group met and worshipped together as early as 1839. Before the church was built services were held about every two or three months in homes where the hospitality of the hosts included Sunday noon meals. Several schoolhouses, church houses, even barns were used for meetings.

The first house of worship at Union Grove was built in 1885, mostly with donated lumber, rock, sand, and time. Through the years it was enlarged and remodeled, with an extensive program and re-dedication in 1954. It holds the distinction of being the first Brethren in Christ Church to be built in Indiana.

Mt. Tabor Church of God

Records indicate that members of the original congregation met as an "assigned charge" as early as 1871. There are also conflicting records as to where services were held, perhaps in the Millwood schoolhouse, perhaps in an already existing church of another denomination, or perhaps in some other structure. In 1890 a church building was purchased from the Methodists; this was used until 1898 when a new place of worship was dedicated five and a half miles southeast of Nappanee. Additions and improvements were numerous throughout the years. A new church edifice on a site six miles directly south of Nappanee was dedicated in 1965.

Brethren in Christ Church

Before the local Brethren in Christ denomination, organized soon after 1900, had a home of its own, members worshipped in a church built in 1871 and owned by the United Brethren in the village of Locke, two miles north and west of Nappanee, before Nappanee was in existence. The building was purchased by the Brethren in Christ in 1915; it was known as the Village Church which continued as the denomination's place of worship until September 3, 1967, when the congregation dedicated its new church a mile north of Nappanee on Road Nineteen.

The First Church of God

The First Church of God, whose present home is one mile east and one half mile north of Nappanee, originated in 1911 in tent revival meetings held southwest of Nappanee. A member of the faith from Colorado visited and encouraged several families to become active members of the denomination. That was the nucleus of the local church organization. A few years later lumber from members' woods was donated and the congregation's first church building on West Walnut Street

This page sponsored by **THE KROGER CO.; FABWEL, INC.**

was constructed. Later remodeling and an addition were included in their growth program. 1968 saw the dedication of a new church edifice on ground donated by a member.

The Wesleyan Church

In 1932 a group of about thirty people held weekly prayer meetings in their homes and became known as the Inter-denominational Prayer Group. The next year they organized as a class under a chartered organization named Everybody's Mission of Pennsylvania. In 1935 the group purchased a house at the corner of West Randolph and South Locke Streets, remodeling the interior for use as a meeting place. In 1944 members became a part of the Pilgrim Holiness Church with headquarters in Indianapolis. 1968 saw the merging of the Pilgrim Holiness and Wesleyan Methodist denominations who adopted the name The Wesleyan Church. The local congregation built and dedicated its present church on West Market Street in 1948. A number of improvements have been made through the years.

Church of the Nazarene

The Church of the Nazarene in Nappanee will be one-third of a century old when Nappanee's Centennial is celebrated. Starting in a store building on East Market Street in 1941, the Church of the Nazarene was housed in its own house of worship on South Madison Street in 1942. Appropriate services marked the celebration of the congregation's Silver Anniversary in 1966. Shortly after that, much needed larger facilities were made available when the Church of God moved to its new church home outside Nappanee. The Nazarenes purchased the church on West Walnut Street and consequently were honored with the denomination's Growing Church Award in 1968.

Locke Church of God

With headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee, this group began as a mission church in 1953, meeting in a member's home on Lincoln and Jackson Streets in Nappanee. Because of the growth of the membership which required a larger church home and because no place was available in Nappanee, for several years the congregation met in a rented building in Milford, Indiana. Eventually a house on East Indiana Street was purchased and converted into a place of worship. When the Village Brethren in Christ moved to its new church the Nappanee Church of God purchased the one located in Locke in 1967, which then became known as the Locke Church of God.

First Baptist

The group comprising the First Baptist church began meeting in homes in September 1954. In 1956 property located on South Elm Street was purchased and a house of worship was soon begun. Volunteers finished the interior of the church which was ready for occupancy in 1964. The denomination is an independent association with no affiliations with other Baptist groups.

Northwood Chapel

In 1956 six area families began home prayer meetings. As the number increased, the need arose for a more suitable place to assemble. This led to the establishing in 1959 of the Gospel Light Mission housed in a store building on South Main Street. In 1963 the congregation purchased ground one mile north and one-fourth mile west of Nappanee for the purpose of building a church, which was completed and dedicated as Northwood Chapel in 1965.

Calvary Baptist Church

In 1959 a house to house canvas by an evangelist and his wife indicated a desire in the community for the establishing of an independent Baptist church. A first meeting was scheduled in the Community Park Pavilion. Prayer meetings were conducted; by April 1960 enough interest was shown to form and adopt a constitution in which the church was officially named Calvary Baptist Church of Nappanee.

Places of worship included homes, the city library, and an apartment above a laundromat. In August 1960 members bought the United Brethren church building on East Market and South Elm Streets, which was dedicated in November of the same year.

Saint Isidore's Catholic Church

In May 1960 the new parish church, under the patronage of Saint Isidore, patron saint of agriculture and farming, was blessed and dedicated. It is a part of the Fort Wayne Diocese. Beautification of the church building, at the corner of Jackson and Market Streets, formerly occupied by the Church of the Brethren, was accomplished by dedicated families of the new parish. Membership growth has brought necessary physical improvements to the church and its social hall.

Bible Way Apostolic Church

In June 1968 a family belonging to the Apostolic Church came to Nappanee to establish a congregation of that faith. Services were held at the South Madison Street address in a church which had originally belonged to the Church of the Nazarene. Today there are several families represented and the congregation is steadily growing.

The Living Gospel Church

The Living Gospel Church is composed of a group of people who are interested in providing a non-denominational place of worship in the community. Many of the members come from New Paris, Milford, and surrounding areas. July of 1972 was the time of its incorporation when it leased the church on East Centennial Street, which had recently been made available by the merger of the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist denominations. Several months later the church building was purchased by the growing congregation.

This page sponsored by LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH; QUA-GLASS PRODUCTS; NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY; MAX GWIN

NAPPANEE'S first school is recorded as having been located on the J. C. Miller farm in the general area of the present-day North Main Street Mennonite Church. A small frame schoolhouse was built some time between 1858 and 1867 and was used by both Locke and Union Townships. As early as 1877 a second school was opened to accommodate more children, on the second floor of the Porter Saloon that stood on the corner of Main and Market Streets, currently Schultz's corner. When the original was no longer needed it was sold to a church at public auction in 1879 for $156. After having served as a schoolhouse, then as a church, the building was purchased to be used as a barn until the early nineteen forties when it was again sold and dismantled.

An early historian told that water used by the first school was carried from a farm home located about forty rods east of the schoolhouse, on what is now North Madison Street. "In order to avoid disturbance by the scholars going to the water pail during school hours the water was passed by one of the larger boys and all drank happily and contentedly from the same cup. Matters pertaining to the physical were not stressed in those days."

The Nappanee News of May 6, 1891, had this to say about the school after Nappanee became a town. "We learn that the school first opened on the 12th of November, 1876, with David M. Best as the teacher with 35 pupils. The total enrollment during the term of four months was 76 and out of that number only four pupils were able to read in the *Fifth Reader* and use Ray's *Third Part Arithmetic.* In those days school was called at 7 o'clock in the morning and was dismissed at 5:30 in the afternoon. The advanced pupils came in the morning and remained until 9:00, then attended again in the afternoon from 4-5:30, after the younger pupils were dismissed."

There has been no record found indicating when the method of electing teachers began or ended; but in February and March of 1880 meetings were scheduled at the schoolhouse for the purpose of electing a teacher for the spring term. The applicant for the primary department was a lady who was elected by acclamation. Two men were candidates for the position in higher grades, one of them winning by a considerable margin out of the 106 votes cast.

First Brick Building

In 1878 came a proposal to build a new four-room schoolhouse. An early resident later recalled . . . "what a howl went up by citizens of the townships (Union and Locke) and from citizens of the town as well. They said to build a four-room schoolhouse was a waste of money as

(Above) FIRST SCHOOL, 1867. *Artist's conception based upon photographs of the original building still in use as Jonas Hoover's barn in 1940.*

(Center) SCHOOL, 1877. *Above Porter Saloon, on northwest corner of the square (Schultz site today).*

(Below) BRICK SCHOOL BUILDING, 1878. *Demolished in 1937.*

SCHOOLS

there would never be enough pupils to fill that many rooms." However, a union school building was erected on the east side of Main Street, three blocks north of the center of town. The *Wakarusa Sun* of October 31, 1878, editorialized, "We were struck with amazement this week as we were going to Nappanee with the elegant school building they are erecting at that place. It is spacious and commodious, and for artistic beauty far exceeds anything we have ever seen in a place twice the size of Nappanee." In the spring of 1879 only two of the rooms were finished, but school opened with D. M. Best as principal and a Miss Stauffer as assistant.

The building was "of brick, good architectural design, two stories, and cost $6,000." It was a graded school with about seven months of school a year; 250 pupils could be seated. In June of 1881 only the four lower rooms were finished and used, with a promise that the upper rooms would be "ready in a few weeks."

Early Fund Raising

Much of the Nappanee areas consisted of marsh, lowlands, woods, and fields, a veritable mudhole in spring and other rainy periods. Sidewalks were necessary for the children attending school. In 1879 an oyster supper was held to help raise $30 needed to build a wooden sidewalk with railing along Main Street to accommodate the school traffic. The remainder of the amount was raised by subscription, a favorite method of securing funds.

The *Nappanee News* of September 23, 1880, stated that a Festival raised $15 for the school bell. Later that year another $60 was added, and in January of 1881 "the school bell arrived and is placed in the belfry. It is from the Buckeye Bell Foundry and is of pure bell metal, weighing 350 pounds and has a delightful tone." The bell is now in the Nappanee Public Library.

Newspaper headlines on April 17, 1911, tell that there had been a fire in the belfry at the school house, causing considerable excitement and a "great hustle on the part of the fire department." The hose "had to be carried into a nearby tree to reach the belfry" and soon the fire was under control.

Up to that date there had been no fire escapes, although the second floor of the building had been in use for nineteen years. After the 1911 fire, fire escapes were placed on the building, and the newspaper reported that the board had intentions to fix the building with a ventilating system as well. Maybe that was because the county health board's secretary "stirred up a hornet's nest" by saying he had been sent to condemn the school building. October 17, 1911, is given as the date of the "first trip down the fire escapes." And additional comments stated that "some of the girls had difficulty getting down because of their hobble skirts."

Early Disciplinary Methods Challenged

There were problems in discipline 'way back when.' In the early '90's this account ran in the local paper: "An affair which occurred in the second primary room of the school led to an exciting trial on Saturday. A 14 year old boy was punished for disobedience. His father thought the chastisement was too severe, had the teacher (a woman) arrested on a charge of assault and battery. There were a counsel, witnesses, and a jury. The jury deliberated two hours and brought a not guilty verdict. It could have been settled in ten minutes, but one juryman held out for conviction. Public opinion was in favor of the teacher's rights."

The Millersburg Grit of March 8, 1912, reported that the "method of punishing children for whispering in school by stuffing rags in their mouths has been abolished in Nappanee." This was immediately refuted by the *Nappanee News,* saying that there never had been such a practice in Nappanee; therefore it could not have been abolished. It added, "It is about time this rag story was called off. It has been distorted, magnified, and chewed until it has become a monstrous libel on the Nappanee Schools. Nappanee Schools are as good as the best in this state in towns supporting high schools and are recognized by higher places of learning in and out of the state as such, and better than many. There never was a time when the schools of Nappanee were more progressive than right now, and the *News* speaks from knowledge of twenty-four years."

Central Heating System Installed

At first the rooms were heated individually by stoves. The land east and north of the building was densely wooded; farmers and town workers cut trees, split wood, and piled it in areas adjacent to the school block. Pupils were assigned the recess activity of carrying wood to their separate rooms.

In 1895 the school board, "instead of building a temporary room as contemplated, put in a hot water system of heating, a much needed improvement, for it means a great deal for the comfort of pupils that have

This page sponsored by **GEORGE BUILDINGS, INC.**
Better Buy George "By George"

heretofore been crowded about the stoves employed for heating purposes." Several weeks later the newspaper recorded that thirty seats had been purchased for the additional space created by the removal of stoves in the various rooms and with twenty chairs in a "new recitation room, this number of seats will almost equal that which could have been obtained by the construction of a temporary school room."

This structure, with two additional two and three-room wooden buildings erected on the school block in the early 1900's to accommodate the ever increasing enrollment, housed all twelve grades until a new high school was constructed after groundbreaking in 1916 and occupancy in 1918. As early as 1916 there was an overflow of first graders, some of whom were enrolled in a temporary classroom in the basement of the Methodist Church. When the high school students moved to the new structure, one of the wooden buildings was moved to 601 North Main Street to be remodeled into a residence which is in existence today.

Again in the 1930's the buildings were inadequate for the school population. Plans for an addition with eighteen rooms appear in the original blueprints, but finances limited them to twelve. Two of the rooms were designed for use by the high school home economics and vocational agriculture departments. That section was named the Central Grade Building.

A calendar note of May 3, 1937, tells that "wrecking of the old brick building began this morning." The new wing was completed in time for a late first day of school for the grades that fall, after which the second frame building that had stood on the site for many years was torn down. Thus ended the third era of school building.

But that did not solve the housing problem. With the consolidation of Scott Township and half of Jefferson Township with Nappanee City Schools in 1947 Nappanee again needed more classrooms. The Community Park Building was utilized for additional grades 1-6; that was known as the Park School. At the same time plans were underway for the construction of the much needed South Elementary School on State Road 19. There a kindergarten and rooms for four grades were completed in 1954; immediately the board recognized the need for more space and two rooms were added to be occupied in January of 1956.

On August 6, 1956, ground was broken for the long dreamed of high school building on the site at the end of East Van Buren Street, on land that had been purchased for that purpose thirty years earlier. Grades 7-12 and teachers moved en masse to the new East Side School in January 1958. The Park School classes were then sent to

(Top) CLASS ROOM, 1903. *Chester Walters, Ralph Stose, Wallace Lape, George Unger, Lydia Bontrager, Ruth Huffman, Frieda Fischer, Bernetha Hartman, Vera Albin, Bessie Neely, Goldia Ringenberg, Forrest Defreese, Miss Rupel.*

(Center) FOOTBALL TEAM, 1906.

(Bottom) FRAME SCHOOL HOUSE, 1911. *In use until 1937.*

the old high school building to become a part of the Central Elementary School.

No sooner was one educational hurdle surmounted than another arose. By 1962 the combination of Nappanee, Wakarusa, Union Township, and Harrison Township schools was completed and incorporated into the Wa-Nee Community Schools. Immediately the urgency for a new high school was recognized and plans for the construction of such facilities were presented. A proper location was of first consideration; a site consisting of 63 acres, a mile and a half north of the city, was purchased; ground was broken; construction was begun; and the new NorthWood High School, with over 950 students and a staff of fifty, was dedicated on May 7, 1972.

Rural Schools Play a Part

Mention must also be made of the schools serving the educational needs of the rural areas surrounding Nappanee. An Atlas dated 1874 shows a schoolhouse located a mile east and about a half mile north of the center of town. This was known as Culp School and was used as an elementary school until 1953. Another was the Cable School south and east of Nappanee. One amusing anecdote connected with the Cable School and appearing in an 1895 newspaper said, "Some time ago the janitor found, on opening the school, that tramps had made themselves as at home as circumstances would allow. They had left behind a large whiskey flask filled with powder. They probably belonged to a gang of burglars." School houses seemed to have been favorite stops for vagabonds, generally accessible through basement windows.

Additional names familiar to many residents would be Strycker, Locke Center, Best, Welty, and Berlin.

Normal School

Nappanee boasted a Normal School at the time the new school was constructed in 1878; it included twelve weeks of courses. "Young ladies and gentlemen will find this a good opportunity to prepare themselves for teaching or for the practical business of life. Tuition of $6.00. W. H. Holdeman, principal." One could obtain "good board" at $2.50 to $3.00 per week. Classes continued each year under individual instructors until 1890; then in 1890 headlines in the newspaper show that Nappanee started out the year "with a Normal School under the auspices of the School Board."

Commencements

Diploma Hour in Nappanee has an interesting history. The first commencement was held in the original Methodist Church in May 1898. There were ten members of that graduating class, two boys and eight girls.

After the erection of the Civic Auditorium in 1899, familiarly known as the Opera House, on the northwest corner of Main and Market Streets, commencements were held in that building. Older residents will recall that seniors sat on the stage, with juniors and sophomores in the side balconies and the freshmen in the first several rows of the center balcony. They will also remember how the sections were decorated with yards of bunting and crepe paper ribbons; each class composed its own yell to deafen the cherubs painted on the walls of the auditorium. By 1925 the practice of flying class banners from the top of the water tower had disappeared. That had become a part of commencement — whose banner, the juniors' or seniors', would be flying when the presentation of diplomas ended the commencement exercises?

The Nappanee Community Building became the place for commencements in 1934 and was used until 1958 when the East Side High School was completed. With the new NorthWood High School, graduation activities moved to that location.

Athletics Among Major Activities

No one can fathom Nappanee without an athletic program. Baseball was an early favorite, probably because that sport was already popular in the town and because it required no structural facilities. A picture in the library indicates that a town baseball diamond was located north and east of the brick schoolhouse; so that was readily available for inter-scholastic competition.

Football was played as early as 1904, with Bourbon as the team's first inter-scholastic rival in 1906. At first inter-class competition had been the rule.

When in 1911 a few boys rented Keller's skating rink and started practicing basketball, the sport soon became a part of "Hoosier Hysteria" as the game is often termed. Keller's rink occupied the second floor of the building on the northeast corner of Main and Lincoln Streets where Jim's TV is presently located.

On February 12, 1912, they "felt bold enough to play before spectators," challenged Bremen to a game, but lost by a narrow margin of 22-15. 250 fans witnessed that first game. "Baskets were high among the rafters and shooting from an angle" made scoring difficult.

Until the completion in 1918 of the "little gym" as the new school's gymnasium later became known, all basketball games were played at that skating rink. In the years between 1918 and 1924 the south and east balconies were adequate for the spectators. An overhanging balcony was then added to accommodate more student fans who were pushed, shoved, and trampled on as they vied for the coveted floor positions, sitting with their legs dangling over the edges of the balconies in an endeavor to catch a glimpse of the excitement going on below, while those on the top rows stood, leaning forward to view the same activity.

In 1927 a group of interested citizens proposed the construction of a gymnasium in order that the "Nappanee school may take part in athletics with larger schools in the northern part of the state." It was pointed out that the "local school will be excluded from the Northern Indiana Conference through lack of gym facilities." It was at that time that the land at the east end of Van Buren Street was purchased; but it was thirty-one years later that the East Side High School with its fine gymnasium was a realization.

(Top) HIGH SCHOOL, *with north addition of 1937.* (Bottom) FIRST HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM. *Players (left to right): Harry Iffert, Sam Sharp, George Warner, Noble Hollar, Lowell Terwilliger, Lloyd Johnson, Harvey Frederick, Galen Roose, Capt., Coach: Orville Fischer.*

In the meantime the Community Building, which was built a block south and a block east of the center of town in 1933, served as the focal point for basketball games, dramas, and other school entertainment until 1958 when the high school moved to its new location.

Great coaches and teams have come and gone; but basketball in the Nappanee area will probably go on forever. Basketball enthusiasm is not limited to the high school; grade schools and junior highs have become the feeders for future varsity squads.

Interest in football was revived in 1948. It took a couple of years of interschool competition for the varsity squad to earn more wins than losses; but some outstanding players have been developed through the years and victory is frequently a result of well co-ordinated plays. It was in 1950 that the Memorial Football Field was dedicated, reputedly one of the finest in northern Indiana.

Music Gains Momentum

Music has been an important part of the school's curriculum. By 1913 vocal music had been added to the list of courses offered; many were the early operettas presented by the music department. In 1922 Harley Rickert, a local musician, organized the first instrumental work in the schools. Pupils purchased their own instruments, took private lessons, and were soon playing in a high school band or orchestra, or both. Nearly sixty aspiring musicians played a total of seven different instruments. Rehearsals were conducted once a week in an upper room of the old brick building or the upstairs of the town hall. Not until 1937 was a licensed band director employed to fill the position occupied successively by Mr. Rickert, his father Dillman Rickert, and J. W. Rosbrough.

Publications Relate Schools' Story

Much of the tale of the growth of Nappanee's schools is evidenced in its yearbooks, published at the close of each year, and the biweekly newspaper.

The *Lorelei* of 1906 is the earliest yearbook on file. Until 1924 the annual went by sundry names selected by the classes. *Peerless, Purple Parrot,* and *Excelsior* were among the titles. The *Napanet* was suggested in 1924 as a standard name for the publication and was used until 1970 when it was changed to the LOGUE. From 1924 to the present time two classes were unable to have yearbooks, one because of the depression and another because of the scarcity of paper as a result of World War II. Several nationally known artists began their careers as cartoonists by illustrating their classes' yearbooks.

The *D'Bulldog,* first published in 1943-1944, was the mimeographed newspaper prepared by students interested in journalism. Modern printing equipment and courses provided by the new NorthWood High School in 1970 made it possible to update the format and the title was changed to *Panther Tales* in keeping with the name chosen by students as the school's symbol.

Blue and White had been the school's colors for many years, dating back to the early 1900's. Red and black are the colors selected for NorthWood.

THE LIBRARY

EVEN in the earliest days of the village there were serious efforts to provide a Library. Not a Public Library, to be sure, supported by taxes as we know them today, but rather a central collection of books that could be borrowed for several weeks at a nominal cost. For such a want, charlatans and frauds had just the thing to fill the bill. For that reason the initial efforts ended in charges of chicanery and worse.

In April 1885 a young buck descended upon the *News* printing office with a job he needed printed right away; he was establishing a "circulating library" and needed contracts to start canvassing the very next morning. The forms were forthcoming; Thursday thru Saturday the young chap made the rounds of the village. Monday morning, when the Library was to open in the Binkley Drug Store, the young fellow was on hand; the collection was spread out for inspection. Wrote the *News,* "That is when the library began to circulate. It circulated around on Main Street and over to Walters Drug Store, but it received such an impetus at Peoples Drug Store that it could not stop, and it was last seen circulating to the depot, and now is reported to be meandering over Bremen."

As the story unfolded, nearly seventy villagers had signed up at 50c each, for reading the library for a year. Unfortunately the books were all fiction, "of the cheapest style, worth from 3 cents to 10 cents a copy, the whole pile costing not over four to five dollars. For which, had this young man been successful in collecting his subscription, he would have received about $35."

Ladies Library Association

The town's next effort at establishing a library met with success. In March 1895 the Ladies Library Association was formed to nurse a small collection of books (178 to be exact), shelved for circulation. Membership was $1 a year; single books could be borrowed for two weeks. Non-members could borrow books at a cost of 10c each per week. While it was a start toward a library, it had obvious shortcomings. It was open on Saturdays only, from 2 to 8 p.m. Judging from those titles that have survived to our day, the books were mostly "light fiction." For male patronage, its location was less than inviting. It opened in the Carriage Works, but it was shortly moved upstairs into a room in the Hartman Block (now G&N) across the hall from the *News.* Which was not bad. Within a year or so however, the books were moved into the "dressmaking parlor" of Mrs. Charles Fligor. By January 1899 they were located in the Womens' Relief Corps room over Fidler & Rickert (now Lords); within another year the books were shelved in the millinery store of Mrs. C. M. Flickinger on West Market Street.

Despite its deficiencies, Ladies Library Association survived for many years, performing its office to a degree. Incidentally, some of the books have found their way onto the shelves of today's Public Library, where they are preserved primarily for sentimental reasons.

A Public Library

A real Public Library had its beginnings in June 1916 when the Thursday Club got behind the idea, and donated $31.50 as well. Additional donations were forthcoming. A Library Board of seven was appointed: Charles F. Miller, Claude R. Stoops, Mrs. Myrtle Rickert, Jacob S. Hartman, Mrs. U. J. Shively, N. A. Lehman, and Bessie Brown. It held its first meeting on May 6, 1919. Facing the Board were substantial problems. There was need for a site, for books, for a librarian.

In June 1920 a committee of the Library Board wheedled sufficient pledges to add to its own funds to purchase the present site for $9,500 (less the northeast corner, the Geiser home, which was purchased in 1958).

This page sponsored by **DR. DONALD R. HINTON**
Osteopathic Physician and Surgeon

On the premises were two houses, a connecting building, a garage, a bicycle shop. Some of them were sold, others were rented. The upper floor of the corner house was rented; the main floor — a labyrinth of connecting and side rooms and cubby holes — was shelved and made ready for books. A book shower netted 378 volumes, plus magazines. When the library opened on February 5, 1921 there were 1,500 books and thirty-five magazines, all donated, and three newspapers. On opening day there were 231 registered borrowers.

When a building fund was inaugurated in 1925, the first money came for the Ladies Rural Club. Additional funds accumulated from rummage sales, from Senior classes, tag days, from rents and interest. While the fund neared $20,000 by 1935, still more money was needed. Unfortunately the Carnegie Fund, which had aided many another earlier library, had just gone out of that business. Application was therefore made in 1935 for PWA funds. After months of frustrating haggling with bureaucrats, supplementing funds were finally forthcoming in July 1936.

From plans prepared by Austin and Shambleau, architects, of South Bend, building began on October 21, 1936; the corner stone was laid that December 14. The present handsome structure was opened on Monday, April 26, 1937.

In earlier days, library hours were 10-12 a.m.; 1:30-5:30, 7-9 p.m. In the depth of the depression, for thirteen months the doors were opened only on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The Historical Room

Under the direction of the present Librarian, Mrs. Evelyn Culp (and with financial assistance from the Kiwanis Club), the Historical Room was opened in 1971 in the Library's Fiftieth Year. With a nearly complete file of the local newspapers (presented to the Library in 1921), plus a good collection of historical photographs and other source materials, assembled by Mrs. Culp, it is undoubtedly one of the best Local History Rooms in the state. The compilers of this book have depended heavily upon the resources of the Historical Room; without those materials this book would have been impossible.

The Librarians

Rachael Stier	Feb. 1921-July 1922
Ruth Stevens	Sept. 1922-Feb. 1924
Blanche McKee	March 1924-May 1943
Florence Thorne	1944-1948
Julia Milne	1949-1951; 1952-August 1957
Evelyn Culp	August 1957-

(Top) J. M. KELLER HOME *(First Library building), as it appeared in 1898 — and as the library —* (Center) INTERIOR, *first library. On the wall is the clock made by hand by Jesse Neher in 1882.* (Bottom) KELLER RESIDENCE, *about 1890, before additions.*

COMMUNICATIONS

Postoffice and Mails

On Monday, March 22, 1875, when the village was barely 3½ months old, Dr. James S. Smith received his credentials as postmaster, and a regular postoffice was established here. But it was one in name only, without a building, without a resident postmaster (Smith was still practicing medicine in Locke and lived there), and without regular mails except what came overland by wagon from the Locke postoffice.

Those hints were attended to promptly. Smith moved to Nappanee in May. A small one-story combination doctor's office and postoffice neared completion when word was received that after May 1, 1875 mails would arrive at Nappanee on the B&O. "Our mail route is at last opened," wrote the Nappanee correspondent in the *Goshen Times* on May 27, "and Dr. Smith may be seen twice a day trotting down to the railroad with the mail sack."

Tradition has it, Smith's combination doctor's office and postoffice stood on South Main Street (G&N today). Contemporary records seem to support that contention. On the other hand there is substantial reason to believe the first postoffice was on West Market Street (Shell station today). A number of contemporary records suggest that. The first issue of the *News* in March 1879 placed Smith's office-residence, then at least, at the Corner of Clark and Market. Callie Holdeman's Millinery Shop was placed at the same address — in "Smith's Office Building," suggesting there was room in Smith's office to have earlier accommodated a postoffice window. The same issue placed P. C. Stahley's Furniture Store on West Market Street, "opposite the postoffice." An even later ad of Hartman Brothers, when they were in temporary quarters on West Market in 1881, "on West Market Street, opposite the postoffice."

Therefore, while recollections put the first postoffice on South Main Street, which is undoubtedly correct, almost as good a case can be made for West Market Street.

Smith tended the postoffice only seven months, when he was succeeded by J. B. Peddycord. In July 1879 he began construction of his own one-story building three doors south of the square (Lemna Barbershop today) into which he moved in October. He remained there no later than 1898, for in that year Clayton Strohm purchased the building for his ice cream parlor. Some years later the old postoffice building was moved to the south side of West Market Street where as late as 1943 it was the Express Office.

But back to the postoffice. After completion of the Coppes Hotel block in 1895 — and before 1898 — the office was moved into the room most recently occupied by Mrs. Hadley's Dress Shop. When the Wisler brick building went up on East Market Street in 1914, the postoffice took a 10-year lease on the west half (Owners Discount today). When still another Wisler Building went up on West Market Street in 1926 (Wolfberg today), the postoffice was moved into the east room along the alley, where it remained until the present federal building was opened October 31, 1935.

Early postmasters were not inundated with mail or work. Old pioneers recalled that for some years the mail could be carried in a man's hat if he was of a mind to do so. Which meant postmasters had time for other affairs. Smith attended to his doctoring. Peddycord installed a Postoffice Bazaar as a "convenience to the public, offering a full line of stationery, shelf papers, toy books, tobacco, cigars and notions." In Peddycord's Bazaar too Cyrus Beauchamp, one of Nappanee's three barbers in 1881 set up his chair.

In Peddycord's first quarter he once recalled his take was $8, which represented the business of the office then. For the quarter ending December 31, 1882 Peddycord "cancelled $211.22 worth of stamps." Total receipts first went over $10,000 in one year in the year ending June 30, 1911. Money orders were first written in August 1880. There was one eastern and one western mail each day as late as 1881. Night mail began in 1887.

Until 1900 everyone, townsmen and farmers alike, picked up their letters and newspapers at the postoffice. In the office there were 535 boxes in 1896.

On Monday, June 16, 1900 Clyde Early made the first rounds on Rural Route 1. The first delivery on Route 2 was made on Monday, April 15, 1901 by Harold Brown. Route 3 was authorized September 2, 1901; no further information about it has been found. Edward Arch received Route 4, with the first delivery Monday, May 16, 1904. Early delivery was by horse. By May 1908 Arch made his rounds on a motorcycle.

This page sponsored by **H & H REPAIR SHOP**
"Lonnie & Devon"

(Left) MAIL DELIVERY BY SLEIGH. *Carrier Hal Brown with the rural route two mail wagon, mounted on runners.* (Right) NAPPANEE'S SECOND MOTORCYCLE, 1909, *owned by Hal Brown and used for rural mail delivery. Ed Arch, Sr. purchased the first motorcycle in town, in May 1908, for his rural route.*

Even with four rural routes there was still no town delivery. Even parcel post started earlier. On Wednesday morning, January 1, 1913 A. H. Kaufman was the first to use the service, mailing a package of smoked sausage to his brother in Palacios, Texas.

When postoffice receipts totaled $10,000 in 1911 the town was technically entitled to free home delivery. But first, all the houses needed to be properly numbered and all the streets named.

While the streets had long since been named, numbering was left to individuals, with the aid of the Town Clerk and plat. By March 1911, 427 houses had been numbered; 171 had not. All street signs were placed and all numbering was completed by May 1913. But three more summers came and went before the first free home deliveries left the postoffice on Wednesday, April 1, 1916. Samuel Sharp had route one (all east of Main Street), and Orville Fisher, route two (all west of Main). There were then two deliveries a day to residences; and three to business houses.

Proposed Railroads

At least fifty railroad schemes had Nappanee on their routes. East-west lines. North-south lines. Zigzag lines that cut across country to link every hamlet, town and city. If but a fraction had been built, Nappanee would be the railroad capital of the world. There would be so many of them there'd be no place for people.

But why Nappanee? With but two east-west railroads in operation, towns north and south of them wanted access to one or the other or both. On the B&O Nappanee had quickly become the largest and most promising station in Indiana; it was therefore the logical point to tap the B&O. Further, Nappanee,'s business men were aggressive; they actively sought such lines, and were willing to put their money where their mouths were.

While some of the projects were well conceived with a moderate chance of success, many were flights of fancy. Some were downright swindles and con games. Of those projected, half a dozen reached the point of preliminary surveys thru town. Several of them staked their survey, or actually started grading in or around Nappanee.

One of the earliest plans involving Nappanee was the Michigan, Indiana and St. Louis Railway, organized in March 1882 to build a steam line from Sturgis, Michigan to Danville, Illinois and St. Louis. As surveyed thru town in May 1882 the road would have run directly north-south along what is now Hartman Street, south across Market Street barely missing what is now the original Coppes office building (not there then). Ten rods beyond crossing the B&O tracks a bearing would have been made for a direct line to Bourbon.

Township taxing bodies were asked for subsidies. Elkhart voted $25,000, Middlebury $12,000. When it came Nappanee's turn the proposal was voted down. Within days, $3,400 was raised by public subscription; more in the weeks that followed. Without laying a mile of track the M.I. & St.L. Railroad disappeared from view.

No matter, tho, for by that time Nappanee was deeply involved, pro and con, in the grandest scheme of all, William Dallin's Atlantic & Pacific Railway, dubbed by local skeptics the Sunrise and Sunset Railroad, and the New York, Nappanee and San Francisco. Supposedly backed by well-heeled American and English capitalists, and costing upwards of $300,000,000, Dallin's scheme was to connect the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Early surveys brought the transcontinental line under the B&O three or four miles east of town, then along the south edge of the corporation limits, on the Elkhart-Kosciusko county line. For a station house Barney Uline donated ground near the B&O at the east corporation limits — if and when the railroad was built.

Skepticism increased — or faded away, however you chanced to view the scheme — when the whole grand plan unfolded. For the enormous quantities of rails and materials needed to span a continent, Dallin's "Syndicate" planned blast furnaces on Lake Michigan at Benton Harbor. This meant a "spur" connecting the steel

This page sponsored by BEER & SLABAUGH, INC.; FISHER ROTARY WELL DRILLING CO.; GEYER'S GARAGE; DEAN HOCHSTETLER EQUIPMENT SERVICE

MAIL DELIVERY BY RIG, about 1905. *Rural carriers with buggies, (left to right): Warren Terwilliger, Hal Brown, Jake Hemminger, Ed Arch, Sr. Back row: Mike Hoover, Grace Miller, Alma Hossler, Freed Miller, William Miller, Irvin Duker. Between 1900 and 1914 the postoffice was in the Coppes Hotel building, as seen in the background.*

mills with the main line. Dallin came here again in July 1892; when he departed the matter was "closed up." The terminus of the spur, The Benton Harbor and South Eastern Railroad, would be here! His grand plan was to be handled in phases. First the "spur" from Nappanee to the Great Lakes would be built. Then the blast furnaces, and the Ohio-Indiana sections of the transcontinental; then the Chicago-New York section; and finally the Chicago-San Francisco line.

For the moment however, all the action was here. An engineer's office was set up in the Coppes Hotel. The dirt began to move on Tuesday, July 11, 1893 when half a dozen teams and men began the cuts and fills on the first ten miles out of Nappanee. The gang of workmen was doubled in size. Stakes were set to Wakarusa, and the right of way purchased. The first "paycar" went over the grade on Monday, August 21. It quieted, for the moment, some of the fears, and doubts. Six miles neared completion across what is now Amish Acres, and beyond.

With a second payday looming, doubts again arose. While the men were paid, work ceased shortly thereafter anyway; the general offices in Nappanee were closed. Dallin remained in England trying to peddle his bonds; but "stringent money markets" provided him only with promises. No money. Another spring arrived, but work never resumed. The seven miles of grade just laid there. The grand scheme came to a close locally in August 1897 when Nelson Flowers bought "the grade." It can still be seen to this day across Amish Acres — if you know what to look for.

Interurbans and Trolleys

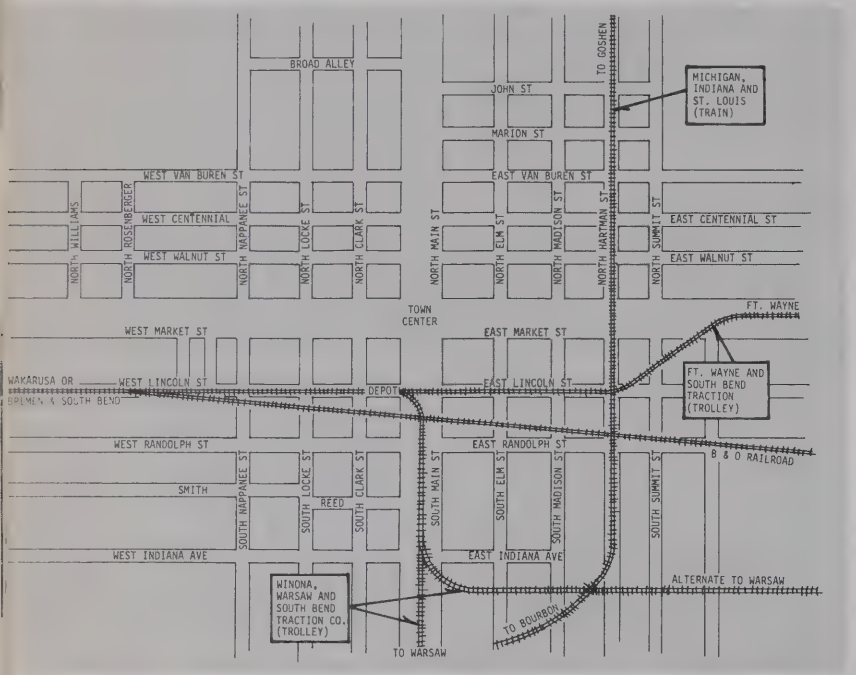
With new-found interest in interurbans after 1900, another new element was introduced: electrified trains or trolleys whose tracks paralleled or actually used highways, roads and streets. Nappanee was on an abundance of those projected routes as well.

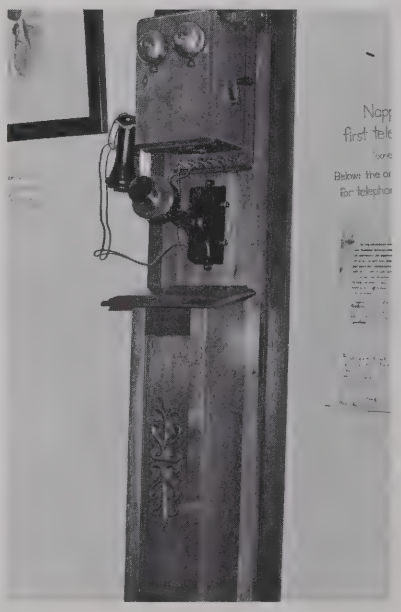
One S. A. Collins touted the Winona, Warsaw, Elkhart and South Bend Traction Company. When, in November 1902, the County Commissioners granted his company a fifty-year franchise to operate on Elkhart County highways, completion of the Nappanee-Wakarusa-Elkhart grading was promised by the following January 1. It was an unrealistic target date, for it was December before Collins appeared before the Town Board to request the necessary franchise ordinance. From the north his trolley would have entered Nappanee on the half section line west of Main Street, essentially the old grade of the Benton Harbor "spur"; it crossed Market Street, turned east and followed the B&O in the general vicinity of Lincoln Street to Main, where it turned south, crossed the B&O and departed town down South Main Street, or by a loop around the factory district, toward Warsaw. With cars with air brakes, electric horns and speeds of sixty miles on hour, eventual connection was promised with Indianapolis and Cincinnati.

Goshen nudged into the picture. With a northerly route (from Warsaw) a necessity, Nappanee and Wakarusa were effectively eliminated. While the company went into bandruptcy shortly thereafter, backing from the Winona Convention allowed its successor to complete the line from Warsaw to Goshen, and eventually beyond in both directions. Meanwhile various proposals were bandied about for years, with Nappanee on, and off, and on again the various lines; none materialized.

For essentially the same route, Nappanee became involved in 1905 with the Fort Wayne and South Bend Traction Company. While management was shuffled and reshuffled, building never got under way. To get things off dead center, Nappanee interests underwrote $32,000 worth of bonds to build the Nappanee-Syracuse segment immediately. With that built, it was thought, the rest of the pieces would fall into place. From Milford Junction the new road would have paralleled the B&O, entering town down East Market Street, if the trains were electrified (south of the factories if steam); then down

This page sponsored by **B & B RESTAURANT**
Serving the community 50 years





(Top) NAPPANEE'S FIRST HORSELESS CARRIAGE, *an Oldsmobile, purchased by C. D. Volkman in April 1902. While it was later in the Fieldhouse Museum, it was sold at that institution's dispersal sale.* (Center) ROUTES *of several proposed railroads and interurbans thru town.* (Bottom) NAPPANEE'S FIRST PHONE *connected to an exchange or "Central." (Photo courtesy* Nappanee Advance News).

Lincoln Street to a depot a half block from the B&O station; then west on Lincoln Street veering north toward Wakarusa. Or west to Bremen. Even with scaled down building plans, and $32,000 pledged, the "money panic" of the fall of 1907 played hob with financing.

Variations of the plan persisted. Things looked especially bright for Nappanee in September 1909 when H. J. Heinz, of the Pittsburgh pickle family, was interested financially in the Winona Road. He was then in Milford and Syracuse looking over prospects for connecting those two towns and perhaps Nappanee as well.

While it fizzled out too, Nappanee interests never lost hope. A $50,000 subsidy was offered to any suitable interurban or trolley plan that benefited the town. Numerous projects continued to bob up. In August 1911 the Winona Interurban proposed a trolley from Milford Junction to Nappanee. If the town would acquire the right of way and lay the rails, half the proceeds would be returned to it. There were still other proposals for Elkhart-Nappanee trolley lines; even one to utilitize the "mud line" — the Syracuse-Waubee Lake line — to extend service to Nappanee, securing power from the Winona, and operating cars between Nappanee and Wawasee Lake.

Interurban talk and plans continued regularly until World War I. After that the automobile had reached such numbers, interurbans and trolleys, to say nothing of railroads, had seen their better days.

Long Distance Telephones

In the earliest days, telephone communication with the county seat was of more importance than even local phone service. With such a vital need, there was no scarcity of schemers and hustlers ready to fill the bill. Every man and his brother had a plan of one kind or another. As early as March 1882 the *News* commented there was "strong talk of connecting Nappanee with Goshen by phone. It will be done if people are willing to guarantee the probable cost."

Answering the call was Overland Telephone Company. It had just finished a connection between Elkhart and Goshen, and let it be known it was ready to connect any town in the county — if it "showed willingness to support the enterprise after it was up." Even before the terms of the company were known, a subscription paper was making the rounds to raise funds for it.

There was abundant support for the plan, but not quite enough. It languished several years before it was again revived. For $500 to $600 Dr. Becknell of Milford opined a line could be put thru to Milford Junction, where a switch would allow connection with Goshen, and Warsaw as well. To finance the project, stockholders were to receive coupon tickets to use on the line when it was up, or to sell to others. Talk continued. With so much of it in the air, Central Union Telephone of the Bell system sought to keep its fingers in the pie. A representative went before the Town Board in March 1896 asking for a franchise to erect poles and string wires. Presumably it would have involved a local exchange in addition to a

long distance wire. But it was an iffy proposition. With instruments at $15 a year it did not appear to have much of chance. But the ordinance was passed just in case.

After local businessmen concluded Central Telephone's proposition was too costly, they made a firm proposition of their own to Goshen interests. If the latter would furnish the wire, Nappanee would provide and erect poles between the two towns. It died in committee. Meanwhile still other proposals were made.

In February 1898 Central Union returned with a new plan. If $600 worth of business in the form of coupon tickets was subscribed, a line would be built. Construction began shortly thereafter on a toll line from Goshen to Bremen via Wakarusa and Nappanee. Phone communication with the county seat — and the country beyond — began on Thursday, May 12, 1898 when the first long distance phone call went out from here over the Central Union Telephone Company wires.

To make such calls however it was necessary to use the only toll station in town, located in the Coppes Hotel. Presumably individual subscribers could be reached in Goshen and beyond. A call from here to Goshen cost 25c; from here to Bremen 15c. Nappanee had come of age with respect to the telephone.

Local Telephones

Even before there was an exchange here, or long-distance, there were private telephone wires strung around town connecting one party with another, but not with any of the others. The first such telephone communications went up in 1885, thirteen years before there was an exchange.

From the depot there was a line to the station agent's home (C. H. Whiteman). Nappanee Furniture Company had a line from its plant at the corner of Elm and Centennial to the depot. In 1889 Coppes Bros. & Zook rigged up a "Bell telephone" between its flouring mill and its factory. "It works like a charm," commented the *News*. When Uline's Butter-Tub Factory and Lehman Furniture Store consolidated in 1895, and bookkeeping was transferred to the retail store downtown, a "magneto Bell phone" was hooked up between the office and factory. There were others as well. It has been said there was a private line between the newly-completed Coppes Hotel and the depot; information about it and others has not been found.

Local Phone Exchange

With at least eight to 10 phones in service, the idea of an exchange was not far behind. "Several of our manufacturers and businessmen are talking up a scheme of a phone exchange," wrote the *News* in October 1895. "Several decided on putting in private phones; a scheme to make service more useful by having an automatic exchange and have a dozen or more subscribers came up. The system talked of is automatic, requiring no operator at central office, but each house can have a hearing with any other subscriber or house connected by their own manipulation of the switch."

When Central Telephone began the Goshen-Nappanee toll line, Elkhart County Telephone of Middlebury sought to add exchanges in Nappanee and Wakarusa, and connect with the long-distance line. When an exchange came however, it was from local initiative, and as a part-time affair which was to grow into a sizeable operation.

Claude R. Stoops came here in 1888 and started a jewelry store. With so much talk of an exchange in the air, he appeared before the Town Board in June 1898 asking for a franchise for setting poles and stringing wires for an exchange. While his project was already well under way, he did not care to proceed further until assured the privilege asked would be forthcoming if sufficient subscribers were found. The Board agreed he should proceed; that such a franchise would be granted if and when. Within a month poles were being set; fifty-two subscribers were lined up. From a 100-phone-capacity switchboard, set up in one corner of his jewelry store, service commenced in mid-August 1898. Calls were handled by one operator; "central" was open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. (only to 8 p.m. November to February inclusive); 9 to 10 a.m. Sundays and holidays.

With its exchange in operation, Nappanee Telephone Company made arrangements to connect to the Independent Company, stringing wires in October 1898 to Goshen (duplicating CU's). For the Stoops exchange it was a vital talking point. "Those with phones," the *News* wrote, "will be able to communicate direct instead of needing to leave their place of business to use the long distance wires." That service was established in late October 1898.

When the Central Union toll-line ceased operation is not known; certainly after 1899 its pickings were slim.

Bus Service

Bus service, so to speak, predates the town. It began with the Locke Horsecar Company, the hack which connected Locke Station with Locke and Wakarusa. The line continued in operation until 1885, and perhaps longer.

A Milford Junction-Nappanee hack line was also an early necessity. In 1889 Lou Babcock and Richard Terwilliger started such service. Each morning at 7 a.m. a rig left the Napanee House to connect with north and south bound trains at the Junction; it returned to Nappanee at 7 p.m. In one form or another a Milford Junction-Nappanee line continued for years, culminating in June 1915 in a Jitney bus service making four trips daily "running nearly as possible on schedule."

With the advent of automobiles, service to other towns opened. On January 7, 1916 William Martin of Milford established a bus line from Nappanee via Wakarusa to Elkhart; its local "station" was the public square. The line was purchased in 1924 by Mose Yoder. He continued the Nappanee-Elkhart route, with three round trips daily, and added a Nappanee-Milford-New Paris-Goshen route as well, with three round trips daily. He sold out in 1946. Bus service dwindled away completely before 1950.

This page sponsored by **HOLIDAY RAMBLER CORPORATION**

(Top) CORNET BAND 1884. *While names cannot be matched exactly with faces, the members were: A. C. Miller, W. Slabaugh, Francis Berlin, A. C. Acker, H. W. Strohm, W. Stauffer, Lewis Berlin, Jasper Price, Leonard Kensinger, D. Rickert, F. Coppes, William Kensinger, Ansom Strohm.*

(Bottom) CORNET BAND 1878. *(From a daguerreotype). Believed to be the first picture of the charter members of Nappanee Cornet Band, as listed elsewhere in the text of this book.*

NAPPANEE'S pride and joy was its Cornet Band. It turned out for parades, political rallies, civic and patriotic occasions; it journeyed far and wide advertising the village as it went. "It is one of the indispensables of the place," wrote the *News* in 1881, "as well as the pride of the town. It is worthy of remark that every member is temperate and an honor to the organization."

Organized in Locke in August 1876 by A. C. Miller, it was reorganized in Nappanee in December 1878. There were twelve charter members: Byron Richmond, Jacob Pippenger, Jasper Price, Dillman Rickert, Henry Strohm, Francis Berlin, Frank Coppes, Wilson Slabaugh, John Coppes, Lewis Berlin, Albert Bass, Louis Brucknater.

As a Military Band, the group turned out into the streets on the slightest provocation; as the Nappanee Orchestra, it played dances and entertainments and concerts. For both types of entertainments the group went first class, with snappy uniforms and fine instruments. "The instruments are not brass," wrote the *News* in 1887, "but silver, and fine pieces costing $725." The Band supported its habit with oyster suppers, strawberry and ice cream festivals, visiting artists and concerts, band fairs, its own concerts.

Its leaders were A. C. Miller, Dillman Rickert, one Blair, and Samuel Porter. When the original Cornet Band disbanded in November 1893, it was immediately reorganized by Will Rosbrugh with sixteen members, including two of the charter members.

In indoor concerts the Cornet Band appeared in everyone of the town's "halls." For outdoor concerts it used all kinds of bandstands and wagons. When barely a year old it erected its own "music stand" on the Rohrer lot; the site has not been identified. In April 1888 the group splurged; for $49.50 it purchased the Elkhart Band Wagon, with capacity of twenty-four to 30 bandsmen. One of its most unusual ones was the combination fire escape and bandstand that went up in August 1904 around the southeast corner of the Auditorium. It was not satisfactory; the music drifted upward beyond the hearing of the audience below.

The band played in unlikely places as well. "The band boys," wrote the *News* in June 1886, "stationed themselves in the top of the new flouring mill and tooted away. No notice had been given of such project, and the first blast caused some to think that Gabriel was coming down to call the town to judgment. That was not all. Jess Flowers' cattle, half a mile away, got scared and it was some time before the cows could be quieted long enough to milk them. The boys then descended from their high perch and gave a street parade."

The Circus

Nappanee's first circus arrived on June 6, 1879 with features the likes of which the village had never seen before. Chariot Romaho, drawn by ten beautiful horses, containing Prof. King's Golden Band. Madame Josephine, daring and graceful equestrienne "whose marvelous and daring acts had electrified the continent of

PASTIMES

Europe." Robert Hunting, jesier, conversationalist and clown. James DeMott and his Arabian Stallions. An extra feature was "an open den of lions" exhibited in the street procession in the morning.

With 110 men and horses, G. W. Donaldson's Circus and Museum came in July 1884. A Grand Parade showed off several beautiful tandem teams driven by "young and handsome ladies;" an elegant band chariot drawn by eight magnificent horses, with Prof. Alexander's grand military band. Following were men and women on horseback, all dressed in the most gorgeous manner. With five large tents, it was the largest show yet to visit town. Coppes Bros.' team tested the strength of the Stout Woman. Unfortunately the trick was discovered by a number of people. Concealed about the rigging was a hook to which the horses were attached. "We have not heard," commented the *News,* "how much Coppes Bros. got for the use of the team."

The Entertainment Halls

In the early days nearly every building with a second floor became a "Hall" — a place for gatherings, church meetings, "entertainments," dances, and brawls. Seirer (or Searer) Hall was the first, opening in 1876 or earlier. In November of that year M'lle Louise and Her Scottish Warblers became the first traveling entertainment to call. It was in the same hall, only a few months later, that a wild west type of shooting scrape and brawl broke out at a dance. Upwards of fifty persons "engaged in shooting, stabbing, clubbing and all other violence."

As the town's entertainment center, it was replaced in 1878 by Johnson Hall, believed to have been on the third lot south of the square on Main Street (north half of Wegmiller's). Between 1878-1881 it was home to Grand Social Dances, oyster suppers, festivals, and traveling shows. Murdoch and Hamilton Dramatic Company gave one of their "popular entertainments" there in the spring of 1879. Sims and Eme's Olio Company played there in December of that year; there were others as well.

On the completion of Stahley's Brick Block on South Main Street in December 1881, Hartman Bros. moved into the double storerooms below. Above them, to the front, was a tier of office rooms; across the back (to the west) was Stahley Hall, reached by a narrow, steep stairway that lead dizzily upward. What the Hall looked like we don't know; there are no known pictures. We do know it was filled with removable chairs or benches; there were at least two large heating stoves. There was a stage of sorts across the west wall, with a heavy canvas drop.

"W. R. Allen of Ligonier," wrote the *News* in February 1882, "has been engaged the past month painting scenery for the stage and frescoing the walls of Stahley Bros. Hall. He has painted six scenes for the stage, an Italian, a street, a parlor, kitchen and forest scene."

Stahley Hall immediately became home to public and civic gatherings, political rallies, town meetings, Union Sunday School. And traveling entertainments such as Ned Turner, "renowned Ethiopian Comedian" for two nights in February 1883. Concerts by the Cornet Band; by Stewart-Wilberforce Concert Company; recitals by Otto Soldan, violinist, in 1887, and others. "East Lynne" was given by the Seybold Company in 1881 with "Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hamilton, late of McVickers Theater in Chicago in leading roles."

Early in 1887 it was renamed Hartman Hall; under its new name it continued to fit the bill for Union Sunday School, dances, oyster suppers, band concerts and entertainments.

It closed in March 1892. The stage was removed, and an inside stairway installed leading to Hartman's Store below. The old Opera House became the new home for carpets, cloaks and curtain goods.

Coppes Hall, an upstairs parlor in the new Coppes Hotel, was hastily pressed into service for entertainments. Reached by an outside stairway, and an inside one as well, it apparently had no stage as such; yet it served as the town's entertainment hall for nearly seven years. The Hoosier Nightingales appeared there, as did the Scotch Medicine Company. Union Sunday School, dispossessed by carpets and cloaks from Hartman Hall, moved in, as did the Episcopal Church for Sunday services. With "special scenery and elegant costumes," the "renowned tragedian Bennett Matlack directed a large local production of "Damon and Pythias." Matlack returned some months later for a series of Shakespearean readings, assisted by mandolin and zither player. After Shakespeare, there were wrestling, boxing and club swinging. Still other attractions were P. R. Miller's original Tennessean Jubilee Singers; and a company of national reputation, the Gertrude Sprague Concert Company.

With the opening of the Auditorium in 1899, Coppes

This page sponsored by **HOCHSTETLER GRAIN EQUIPMENT**
Grain Dryers-Grain Bins

(Top) INTERIOR, AUDITORIUM. *The only photograph so far located of the Auditorium interior, and then only the stage and a few rows of seats. This is a scene from the Senior Class Play of 1926. "What Happened to Jones," directed by — guess who? — J. A. Abell.*

(Bottom) STAGE, AUDITORIUM. *Mel Culp and Roy Slagle in black face for a minstrel show of the 1920s.*

Hall closed its doors; it was converted into seven additional sleeping rooms for the hotel proper.

The Auditorium

"The Finest Little Theater in Northern Indiana" was started not as a playhouse, but rather as a Town Hall. For years the citizenry had ding-donged they wanted a town hall. In December 1898 Daniel Zook gave them a chance to put up or shut up. If the town would build the second story, Zook was prepared to erect a double-store building on the northwest corner of the square. Zook's offer was accepted. Under the leadership of Nappanee Improvement Association, a citizens meeting in March quickly subscribed $4,670 toward a Town Hall project.

When the proposed Town Hall became the Auditorium instead, is not known. In mid-May however, Articles of Incorporation for Auditorium Association of Nappanee, to build and operate the second floor, were filed. With capital stock of $6,000, all had been subscribed for.

Designed and built under the direction of Nappanee's architect-in-residence, H. F. Frazier, work got under way quickly; most of the bricks were made right here in Nappanee. It was finished early in December 1899.

To open the house with a bang (on Thursday, December 21) the Holden Comedy Company, the most expensive popular priced organization on the road, came here directly from Anderson. Never before had the company played a town, only cities. For opening night, seats were auctioned off; some brought as much as $4.65. Most however sold at a uniform $1. Sandwiched between specialties, was Holden's big show of the evening, "A Barrel of Money." On the following evening, "The Denver Express" played to a nearly-filled house. A third performance drew only a fair-sized house.

For the opening, Nappanee Orchestra had been reorganized. Among the musicians was one Robert Tremaine, father of Paul Tremaine, who was to make quite a name for himself and his orchestra in the Paul Whiteman era.

From its opening until World War I, the Auditorium offered some "dogs" and some rag-tag companies. For the most part however, from September through April, Nappanee audiences saw the shows that were playing the Oliver in South Bend and the Bucklen in Elkhart.

One of the first big shows was a local talent production of "The Mikado," directed by George Herbert, "nationally known operatic comedian." While the show was rated an artistic success, it was not without problems. One member of the cast, Harley Rickert, was stricken with typhoid fever three days before the performance. E. D. Stuckman, who played the Mikado, was kicked by his horse; Stuckman suffered a broken leg. While it was touch and go, the latter hobbled onto the stage and successfully, we are told, discharged his role. Incidentally the costumes had been in use by the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and they arrived here only in the nick of time.

In addition to locally-produced shows, band concerts and recitals, there was vaudeville from the Goshen-

Elkhart circuit. There was drama galore. "The Servant in the House" was Gaskell and MacVitty's original New York production, with "the greatest company of players ever sent into the Middlewest." With a special car of scenery, "The Rosary" came here in 1911 when the Bucklen was closed for remodeling.

There were musical comedies in abundance. When "Henpecked Harry" played here in April 1915 it was billed as a city company filling one-night stands enroute to its Chicago opening. Rowland and Clifford's "September Morn," with a company of fifty, advertised itself as from the LaSalle Theater in Chicago.

There were also recitals and concerts. The Angel Concert Company was billed as the finest musical program ever presented in the Auditorium. It consisted of Sydney L. Angel, Prussian Pianist; Martha Alexander; Mable Corlew, mezzo-contralto, soloist with Thavins Imperial Russian Band.

From its opening, picture shows — stereopticon — were occasionally booked when live shows were not available. Motion pictures and vaudeville started in the summer of 1911; surprisingly, the combination was not a financial success. Live productions resumed; in the period 1912-1915 Nappanee audiences saw some of their best shows.

While Lyman B. Howe travel pictures had been shown (they were "educational" and therefore the only movies some children were allowed to see), the first "quality photo-play," "The Wife of Cain" was shown in October 1913 in a season still predominantly live shows. By 1915 however there was nearly a half and half mix of movies and shows; from then on the silent pictures took over.

By the twenties the Auditorium was a movie house, with silent pictures, piano and popcorn machine. In the midst of one of its most exciting serials, they too ended abruptly on March 29, 1928 when the house suddenly fell victim to the ravages of time and building inspectors. Thereafter the doors opened on its musty recesses only once in a while for high school commencement, class plays, medicine shows, home talent minstrels, dances and revivals.

The old house had reached a sorry state when on Tuesday evening, January 19, 1937 at 4:30 a fire was discovered in the Jet White grocery below. Within hours the finest little theater in Northern Indiana had ended its days in a blaze of glory.

The Movies

Nappanee's first nickelodeon or pioneer movie house opened sometime before 1909; nothing further is known about it. Our first recorded movie house, The Theatorium, opened on West Market Street (vicinity of Advance-News) on March 6, 1909 with 3,000 feet of film on four subjects. Nightly but Sunday there were two shows; admission was 10c. On a small stage with wings, curtain, and a street scene, vaudeville with movies, every night but Sunday, started in December 1910. The proscenium was 12 x 9'6", and the stage was of sufficient depth for small companies. The Theatorium closed about 1915.

As the Crystal Theater it was reopened on Wednesday, October 11, 1916, with movies every night but Sunday. Music was furnished by a Lyon and Healy "electric piano." A "musical motion picture," "My Gal Irene," was shown in November 1916. After the house was closed as the Crystal, it was once again reopened, in October 1923 as the Boice Theater.

"Talking pictures" came to Nappanee, to the Auditorium, in January 1901. They were not the sound movies we know today; rather they were moving or animated pictures (scenes of the war), with sound provided from a Graphophone Grand. A slightly refined version appeared in 1913 when "Vivaphone Singing and Talking pictures" were seen at the Auditorium. Real "Talkies" or sound motion pictures began on Friday, March 14, 1930 when the new Fairy Theater inaugurated sound-on-film pictures with Hoot Gibson in "The Mounted Stranger."

Balloon Ascensions

Thanks to Nappanee's three saloons, which put up $25 of the $40 needed, the town's first balloon ascension and parachute drop (with Prof. B. S. Fothergill of Wakarusa playing the double role) came off on Saturday afternoon, August 27, 1899. Another ascension and jump was scheduled for a month later; it was the same balloon, but a different jumper. Fred Westbrook, a Nappanee boy, who out of a dare had made his first jump only a week earlier, rode "The Queen" skyward nearly a mile before bailing out. He landed safely in a field about ½ mile northeast of town. When Onion Days were so popular, Prof. Fothergill and his ascensions and parachute drops were a big drawing card year after year.

Nappanee Chautauqua

While Chautauqua, the educational-recreational assembly, was first considered in March 1910, it was August 27, 1914 when its distinctive round, brown tent was first pitched, on North Main Street, a block north of the school. In five days of shows, provided by Redpath Lyceum Bureau, the format was uniform: a concert, followed by a lecture or reading. Dante's Band was one of the big draws. With 394 adult and 33 children season tickets sold, it was a financial success.

Nappanee's second Chautauqua opened August 21, 1915; attendance was fairly good, but financially there were problems. The third assembly opened in August 1916 with Frank Kryl's Band the big feature. The five days were not successful; each backer was assessed six bucks to make up the deficit.

For the war years, the traveling tents were put in storage. When one was pitched again, in August 1920 on Lamb's lot at the corner of Centennial and Elm, it was a 50 x 110 rectangular canvas with folding-chair seats.

In the 1921 assembly, "The Mikado" brought the largest crowds yet; it was produced by George Herbert who twenty years earlier had directed the local company in the Auditorium production. The five days of programs were the last furnished by Redpath Lyceum Bureau.

For the 1922 assembly Mutual Chautauqua furnished

This page sponsored by **P. N. HIRSCH & CO.; THORNBURG DRUG CO., INC.; ELKHART CO. FARM BUREAU CO-OP ASS'N., INC.; TOWN & COUNTRY ESTATES**

Newspaper ad, Nappanee's First Circus; from the Nappanee News, *May 29, 1879.*

Wait for It! Watch for It! Coming Soon!

The Only Legitimate Enterprise on this Continent!

Hillard, Hunting and Demott's

—GREAT—

Pacific Circus

Wi'd and Trained Animals.

LOOK OUT FOR THE GORGEOUS BAND

CHARIOT "ROMAHO"

Drawn by ten beautiful horses, and containing Prof. King's Golden Band.

MADAME JOSEPHINE,

The Daring and Graceful Equestrienne. Her most marvelous an daring acts have electrified the continent of Europe, and in every city in which she has appeared. Possessing all the attrations of form, features and youth, she adds an intrepidity to the performance.

Le PETIT JOSE,

The Centaur Child-Wonder. Apparently cradled on horseback, and the Sylph of the Saddle

Mr. Robert Hunting.

Jester, Conversationlist and Clown, modest but brilliant, wit and repartee without vulgarity, sartical without offense. A veritable genius in the tented temple of Momus.

Mr. James DeMott,

With his celebrated Arabian Trick Stallions, "Excelsior" and "White Hawk."

FISHER BROTHERS,

In their astonishing Evolutions on the Horizontal Bar and from a mammoth Giant Swing.

William Delhouer!

The California Wonder, surnamed the man of many forms. 'Astonishing!' 'Can he be human? are exclamations that come from the audience as he performs his almost incredible feats.

Monsieur Russell,

The French Clown, whose capers never fail to set the audience in uproarous laughter.

Price of admission 50 cents; children under 9 years 25 cents. Doors open at 1 and 7 P M. Performance commences one hour later. Will exhibit in a Waterproof Pavilion; no postponement on account of weather at

NAPPANEE JUNE 6TH

talent which included "The Shepherd of the Hills," produced by the Wales Players. The tent went up in Frevert Grove; season tickets were $1. For the first time the brown tent was left behind in 1923; Nappanee Chautauqua settled down in the new Community Park Pavilion, built with its use in mind. Even in new quarters, with season tickets at a nominal $1, the assembly did not attract as before. Still, the 1924 season opened in July, highlighted by the Croatian Tamburica Orchestra, and the DeMarco Symphonic Harp Ensemble, furnished by Mutual-Morgan Company.

In June 1925 the Eiler-Willoughby Ladies Orchestra opened the assembly; other highlights were a Wallace Bruce Amsbury lecture, and a play about the adult Lincoln, "The Great Commoner." For the backers, it was financial fiasco. Even with season tickets at $1.50, interest was at a low ebb. Guarantors made up a $400 deficit.

"There will be no Chautauqua next year," wrote the *News* on August 13, 1925. "The deficit of $400 the last two years has appeased the appetites of the guarantors and they decided to let our citizens secure their entertainment in some other way."

Uncle Tom's Cabin

As inevitable as holes in your socks was the return year after year of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." In halls, in the Auditorium, in tents, in pavilions. With each came a Grand Parade, or exhibition of the bloodhounds, panting yet from their big chase scene. In its first exposure here, in 1883, in Stahley Hall, the Union Square Club production played to a crowded house. Mason and Morgan's Company arrived in June 1885 in Stahley Hall. "When the bloodhounds played their part last Thursday," wrote the *News*, "one of them got loose and but for the prompt assistance of one of the party he would have done some bloody work."

Stetson's group played here in 1887 in a tent; in 1889 Nappanee had the really big one, F. E. Griswold's Pavilion Uncle Tom's Cabin show, carrying thirty-five people, three comedians, twenty-five head of horses, Prof. Snyder and his uniformed band — *and* Siberian bloodhounds. In 1913 Harmount's Big Uncle Tom's Cabin company pitched its "mammoth tent" (with seats for 3,500) on North Main Street, north of the school. It advertised the famous dogs Ben and Baker, the "finest lot of dogs ever seen with any traveling company."

Uncle Tom's last recorded appearance in Nappanee was in 1926, when Stowe's company pitched its tent a block east of Central School.

Nappanee Civic Theater

Nappanee Civic Theater and the Pavilion Players were organized in June 1958. Directed by T. J. Busch, the first show, "You Can't Take It With You," was presented in the Park Pavilion on October 1 and 2, 1958. The first musical, George Gershwin's "Girl Crazy" was presented October 20, 21, and 22, 1960. Since those dates, a good share of the top musicals and dramas available have been produced with imagination and competence.

NAPPANEE COLLEGE

A LITTLE KNOWN FACT about education in Nappanee is that in February 1895 a proposed Nappanee College appears in the records. It was necessary to raise $7,000 in Nappanee, of which amount $4,000 was to be given by the town outside of the church membership; this was to be done by solicitation of subscriptions to the college fund. Moneys from other Dunkard churches in Indiana were also subscribed.

A Declaration of Purpose recorded on March 13, 1895, indicated that the Controlling Board would consist of nine trustees, who should "hold office during good behavior, be at least twenty-one years of age, and in good standing with the German Baptist Brethren within the U.S.A." The college was also to "confer literary degrees as are usually conferred by like colleges and shall give suitable diplomas." The trustees were named in the Declaration, among them Stuckman, Wysong, Mellinger, Ulery, Brown, names familiar in Nappanee today.

Site Selected

Negotiations for a site for the college were initiated. "The site chosen by the committee is directly north of the church (now St. Isidore Catholic Church) and south of Centennial Street, and embraces about six acres, and was obtained from Joseph Crow at $200 per acre, and of the purchase price the gentleman donated $225." The *Goshen News* a week later said, "The location was selected with a view to its proximity to the church in the John Stauffer addition, a liberal subscriber who also promised to open east both Centennial and Van Buren streets. Also, an eight foot strip of ground toward opening a street north from Market was given by a Mrs. Newman." This eventually became Jackson Street.

The *Nappanee News* in April of the same year stated, "The college site begins to bear the appearance of preparations for building. A large lot of stone and sand have been hauled onto the grounds. The work of building is expected to go forward as soon as subscriptions can be collected."

An obstacle must have arisen. An urgent call for a meeting on May 7 appeared in the local paper. "There will be a citizens' meeting at the Coppes Hall next Tuesday by request of those having the college matter in charge, to consider, with the citizens whether or not to go forward with the proposed work. It is desired that there be a good attendance." A million dollar endowment bubble had burst at North Manchester where college buildings already existed, according to a newspaper account. A man "did unlawfully, feloniously, knowingly, designedly, and falsely represent that he was an agent of a party who had a million dollars to endow a college and that he would place the same in the college here if they would give him the presidency of the college and free use of the college property."

Seal of Nappanee College, still in possession of Manchester College. (Impression courtesy Manchester College).

That made available the defunct college's facilities. Apparently an influential member of the church favored that site for the proposed Dunkard College, stalled on the proposition, and the school now known as Manchester College took precedence over Nappanee College. And so Nappanee lost its bid for a college in 1895.

Seal Is Designed

According to the Declaration of Purpose, drawn up by men with familiar names like Stahly, Shively, Kaufman, Housour, and Pfeiffer, a seal was designed and "shall consist of the words Nappanee College in circular form enclosing an open Bible, a sheaf of grain, and sickle." That seal exists among the historical memorabilia of Manchester College and is almost identical to the one used by that school, as will be noted in the accompanying facsimiles.

This page sponsored by PLETCHER FURNITURE VILLAGE
HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET
AMISH ACRES

(Above) BALL FIELD, 1880s, *in the shadow of the old brick school building, (or immediately north of today's Central school). Note the high fence around the field.*

(Below) BALL PLAYERS, 1880s. *The photo is identified "Us 6 ball boys going to game." The players are unfortunately not identified.*

Fox Hunts

"War on the Foxes," the *Wakarusa Sun* headlined the story in February 1879. "Nappanee and vicinity turned out in mass on Saturday last, all armed and equipped for the task before them. 470 people, among whom were 25 ladies, surrounded a large territory and with hoops and yells closed in on four of the little red skinned victims. The success was so ample that another appointment was immediately made, and on Saturday of this week a second raid will be made on poor Mr. Fox." The second hunt was a failure.

Horse Races

That Nappanee should have looked and acted like a wild west town in its early days is not unusual; in the 1870s this was the West. Fast horses were as important here as elsewhere. Difference of opinion about them led to horse races — in the streets. In the first recorded confrontation there were three "trotters" in contention; Ed Brown's "Lady Allice," Joseph Strohm's "Flora Temple," and "Rarus," owner unidentified, as the latter was "left in the shade."

On Tuesday, October 28, 1879 the weather was fair, and the track was in splendid condition; there were at least 1,000 people on the streets. Jake Pippenger, the mail carrier, delayed the Locke mail two hours to take it all in.

"At half past three," wrote the *Wakarusa Sun,* "Lady Allice made its appearance and made two heats in order that she might get warmed up. Then Flora Temple came up from the north. The signal was given and the two horses started at such speed that it would be a big thing for a camel back to keep up within 40 rods of them. On they came — and went. Lady Allice was ahead by about 15 inches. The second heat was won by Flora Temple who came out ahead by about 18½ inches. The third was won by Lady Allice in such remarkable time that Rarus would stand no show whatever." But there was dissatisfaction with the starting, and two more heats were run, with Flora Temple winning both "amid the cheers of the excited thousands. . . . If old Johnson had come to time, as he promised to do (he being the scorer) the race would have probably been a little more even."

Baseball

As an unorganized participant sport, baseball is as old as the town; a game was first mentioned in connection with the Grand Celebration of the Fourth of July in 1878. It is assumed the home talent was organized for the occasion as "Fats" and "Leans."

Organized baseball, with minimum organization and abundant fluidity of personnel, began no later than 1880. Teams first ventured beyond Nappanee's borders in 1886, when the local nine took on Bremen, walloping them 29-15 on the opposition's field. Nearly 125 fans followed the team.

Out of that period came one of Nappanee's most famous series of teams, The Nappanee Nine. With slight variation in personnel it consisted of Frank Brown,

SPORTS

Walter Bennett, Will Eggleston, Harry Felty, George Freese, Herman Rosbrugh, Isaac Pippenger, Isaac Jacobs, Warren Terwilliger, and John Coppes. In succeeding years new names appeared: Hagey, Woodbury, Sawyer, Kehr.

In its 1887 season the Nappanee Nine played sixteen games, losing only four. While the team played Goshen, Elkhart, and the St. Louis "Little Nickels" (who beat the locals 14-2), the caliber of the opposition remains a question mark. No matter, the Nappanee Nine became famous enough locally to have a best-selling locally-made cigar named for the team — Nappanee Nine, naturally, with the team's picture on the inside of the lid.

In its 1888 season the Nine played a double header with a Chicago team. A number of records were set. The games drew the largest crowds yet; and for the first time the local team was shut out 5-0. In the second game the Nappanee Nine turned around to rout the visitors 9-1. Which leads to speculation there was perhaps a wrestling-type scenario for the occasion?

Although even so illustrious a group in time faded away, the town continued to field formidable nines. So tough had they become by 1894, arranging games with neighboring clubs was almost impossible. With local competition scarce, the locals took on the Chicago Giants, a colored professional team. The locals were soundly trounced 6-0 and 21-12. By 1905 the local teams began organizing as the Nappanee Royal Tigers, playing year after year.

Renamed the Nappanee Tigers, in 1923, the club turned semi-pro. Players were imported from Sturgis, Kalamazoo, Hammond, Fort Wayne; Eddi Herman of South Bend joined the group, as did others. To support their semi-pro habit, the imports took factory and other jobs where they could be found, several working at the Bee-Hive factory. With twenty-two games won, seven lost, it was a most successful season. Even better was the 1924 season with 19 wins in 25 games. With the defeat of the South Bend semi-pros 10-1, the Nappanee Tigers, in 1924, assumed the mythical Championship of Northern Indiana. "In the zenith of its baseball career," wrote the *News,* "South Bend never had a team to equal it (the Tigers)." All eyes, it was said, were on Nappanee, with the "fastest, semi-pro team ever organized in Northern Indiana."

Financially, the 1924 season was a flop. For the first nine Sunday games there was rain; while large crowds turned out later in the season (as many as 1,000 at home games, 2,500 away), earlier losses could not be overcome. A healthy deficit was written off by local merchants. As semi-pros the Tigers went into the 1925 season; it was their last. While the Tigers remained as a name into the 1930s, baseball as an adult spectator sport had it.

Meanwhile other local teams had their day: the Southsiders, around 1900; the Nappanee Maroons 1909-12; The Nappanee Alleyrats 1910-28; and the Independents 1925-26.

Baseball Grounds

What vacant lot or field was used for the first baseball game is anyone's guess. Younger players used the streets; so much so that in 1885 the town council talked of prohibiting it altogether. "People passing by," wrote the *News,* "are in danger of being hit, horses being scared and window lights being broken." Meanwhile, the older baseball players had "cleared up grounds" in 1880 north of the old Brick school house, where a diamond was laid out. The three acres were leased in the summer of 1886, and enclosed by a high fence. Unfortunately it was only a few years before the area became Best's Addition to the town; by October 1892 only one lot carved from the old ball field remained yet to be sold.

For a time there was no regular ball field. "For want of a better place," wrote the *News* in August 1893, "the team went into practice on a farm south of the railroad." In that period a few games were played on Fahlstrom's picnic grounds (Community Park). Then a rough field, it was leased in the spring of 1895. Under manager Rosbrugh it was "plowed, harrowed, scraped, leveled and rolled." When seeded with grass, and a grandstand thrown up, it was described as one of the better fields in this area. Admission to the grounds was 15c, to the grandstand, 10c more.

In its turn, that field too became an addition to the town. Teams settled down in West Side Ball Grounds, across the tracks almost directly south of West Main Street Mennonite Church, then still outside the corporation limits. The Royal Tigers, playing there in 1909 were publicly promising they "would make special effort to have the very best of order on the grounds and in the grandstand." While the field was in use as late as 1914, the ballplayers were ever complaining that the area was

This page sponsored by FBT CAPITAL CORPORATION

(Top) NAPPANEE BASEBALL TEAM, 1907. *Top row: Bake Huffman, Charles Wysong, Charles Tobias, Ed Geyer, Gible Anglin, Art Tobias, Firm Troup, Charles Volkman, John Richmond, bookkeeper. Bottom row: Harm Tobias, Orb Geyer, Duck Biehl, Tony Jones.*

(Bottom) NAPPANEE NINE 1891, *with an open box of* Nappanee Nine *cigars. Top row: E. A. Dausman, Herman Rosbrugh, Will Woodbury, unknown, George Freese, Charles Kinney. Center: unknown, J. S. Pippenger, Warren Terwilliger, Isaac Jacobs. Bottom row: Frank Brown, Harvey Coppes.*

too "isolated," and too inviting to tramps riding the nearby rails.

Shortly before 1920 games were played on Stauffer grounds (Stauffer Park today). With pledges in hand, supposedly sufficient to cover the costs, a committee in June 1922 bought the property. By voluntary work and contributions a grandstand was erected, and the park became home to large crowds in the semi-pro era. By the 1930s baseball had faded away. With debt still hanging over the property, the committee left it go back to the earlier owners. On Saturday night, May 16, 1936 the grandstand burned to the ground from fire of unknown origins. For $3,000 the acres were purchased by the city in June 1936. With voluntary labor and contributions, fourteen lights on six poles rose for the first game of ball (softball) under lights on Monday night, June 22, 1936.

Indoor Baseball

While baseball in name only, Indoor Baseball was first played locally in January 1912 in the Keller Skating Rink (above Jim's TV and Dave's Mens' Wear). "The bases are 27 feet apart," wrote the *News*, "and it takes more than ordinary work of the batsman to get a hit the full length of the room, as the soft ball of yarn covered with leather measures 17 inches in circumference. The only change in the position of the men is that two fielders do the work and there are two shortstops who play close in. The game last Thursday was between the Athletics and White Sox, the former winning 24-19." To some degree there was some interest as late as 1923 when the Nappanee postoffice indoor baseball team defeated the Goshen postoffice team in a game played in Community Park Building.

Football

While it never quite matched baseball in popularity, football was played from the earliest days. An 1898 story in the *News* mentioned games that year, and in earlier ones as well.

Even by modern standards it was a bruising sport. It called for as hardy a spectator then as today. "In spite of the rains and the strong winds," wrote the *News* in November 1898, "about 150 lovers of football assembled in Stauffer Park to see the defeat of the Milford eleven by Nappanee. They (Milford) conducted themselves as gentlemen, and there was an absence of kicking, so distasteful to spectators, and a lack of foul plays and misplays. Milford was confident of victory to the very close, but after the game admitted they were fairly beaten." Which seems to tell us something, if we only knew what. Incidentally, the Stauffer Park field ran north and south in those days.

Officiating was not an exact science by any means; in another game with Milford, in November 1900, it was especially lax. "To prevent bad feelings among the players," explained the *News*, "Nappanee relinquished its 13-5 win, settling for an 8-5 victory over Milford. The Nappanee boys made a touchdown on what the visitors claimed was a dead ball, though the officials' decision was against Milford."

The Nappanee eleven consisted of Earl Rosbrugh, Burt Arch, R. Deisch, P. Yoder, O. Volkman, Otto Defrees, Roy Ruckman, J. Richmond, H. Waterman, J. Ringler, Chas. Johnson, Tom Hepler (q.b. and manager). In 1906 the town team consisted of — Martin, O. Sechrist, L. Smeltzer, G. Gentzhorn, D. Sechrist, R. Miller, G. Troyer, F. Good, Roy Ruckman, Harmon Beihl, and Eldon Beihl. Under manager Lester Wilson the team won the first game of the season, at Bremen. Wrote the *News*, "The boys played the game with ginger." What happened the rest of the season, and in the years that followed is not known, as the events were apparently not newsworthy for the weekly newspapers.

Basketball

As an adult sport, basketball caught fire later, and died out quicker than baseball or football. One of the earliest city teams cited in newspaper stories was the Nappanee Independents (in news items in 1926 referred to as the "Nappers"), playing Syracuse A. C., Middlebury, Elkhart. In the 1928 season a North Indiana "Cage Loop" of seventeen "crack" teams was proposed; invitations went out to all of them. Little apparently came of the plan. One of the few inter-city games covered by the newspapers was the January 1933 meeting of the Johnson Drugs and the "world-famous" Giants, in Wakarusa. Representing Nappanee were Phillips, Haines, Price, O'Neal, Mullett and the Pinkerman brothers; against them the Giants average 6'6", with the tallest man 6'10". Nappanee won 35-34.

Nappanee Gun Clubs

"It seems," wrote the *News* in May 1884, "Nappanee is to have a sporting club or shooting-glass-ball-club-on-the-principle-of-a-pigeon-flying. The machine that whoops the balls up has arrived already." Its success was not documented in the newspapers.

A Gun Club, as such, was first organized in June 1892 with membership consisting of Mel Wysong, Chris Johnson, E. W. Good, J. O. Kantz and George Loney. In 1901 the club was reorganized as Nappanee Gun Club, with 8 members. Under its auspices a national event, the Inter-State Association Shooting Tournament was set up for September 3 and 4, 1902. The traps were located just outside the corporation limits on the Emmett farm.

In the following years it was more a matter of organizing and reorganizing than shooting. In 1904 the group became the Nappanee Gun and Rifle Club with membership of 15; in 1909 the Nappanee Rod and Gun Club, with membership of 20. After a period of inactivity it was again reorganized in July 1913 as the Nappanee Gun Club. One of the first pieces of business was to relocate its grounds to the West Side Ball Field, across the tracks, south of the West Mennonite Church. The location was less than ideal; the club house was quickly damaged, almost beyond repair, by tramps from the railroad grounds.

The club was reorganized again in 1915; in July 1922, with twenty-six members it became an incorporated group.

(Above) CITY FOOTBALL TEAM, 1906. *Top row: Harmon Biehl, Firm Troup, Lester Wilson, Roscoe Miller, Floyd Good; Middle row: Lon Geyer, Oliver Sechrist, Mel Culp, Troyer; Front Row: Dick Sechrist, Eldon Biehl, Leo Smeltzer.*

(Below) COMMUNITY BUILDING. *In its haste to get a gymnasium under way, in the spring of 1932, sloppy handling of procedures by the City Council resulted in injunctions tying up the project for months while legal problems were untangled. Construction started in December after the old house on the premises was moved to the east edge of town. While the WLS Barn Dance stars inaugurated the house on Wednesday, June 21, 1933, a lack of hot water showers prevented basketball practice until Monday, October 30. After drawing lots, Jim Richcreek was first to dribble under the basket; the ball rolled around the hoop and fell outside. Pippen was first to score under the basket. Galen Phillips took the first long shot, and scored. The building was demolished in August 1972.*

This page sponsored by **SHAMROCK MEADOWS; J. R. ARNOTT & SON**

Tennis

By the summer of 1907 there were nearly forty tennis enthusiasts in town, playing on at least three courts: Bachelor Club court on East Market Street (Standard Oil site); West End Court (site not identified); and H. E. Zook's private court on North Madison Street (Marshal and Kaufman lots today). Under the auspices of the Bachelor Club the First Annual Lawn Tennis Tournament was hastily organized that summer; there were over thirty entries. A Second Annual Tournament was played in 1908, with quite a number of "lady enthusiasts" competing. While there was no Third Annual Tournament, a Tennis Club, with eighteen members, was organized in 1910; J. C. Newson was President, Eugene Howenstein, Secretary-Treasurer.

In the spring and early summer of 1921 two courts were built by the club on the Lamb lots at the corner of Centennial and Elm (Evangel Press site). When not in use by its members, the courts were open to the public. Three courts were constructed the following year in Stauffer Park, in the area later used as a skating rink.

With new courts, Annual Tournaments resumed. At the second tournament, in 1923, participants came from Kokomo, Goshen, Elkhart, South Bend, Wawasee, North Manchester, Mishawaka, Decatur, Warsaw, Cassopolis. Owing to heavy rains the East Side court could not be used; the games were played on the Irvin Coppes-H. J. Rickert (Zook) court.

Unfortunately, while new courts were built and put into play, older ones went untended. With funds of the Athletic Association, four clay courts were completed in 1930 on the east school grounds; they were later increased to six. At the same time however the Stauffer Park courts were abandoned; those at Community Park deteriorated. When the latter were improved in later years, several of those at the school grounds grew up in weeds. Never were there more than six good courts at one time.

Other Sports

Chopping Bees, a common necessity and sport in early days, survived as late as 1896, when there was an "old fashioned chopping bee" on the tract of timber on the William Wagner farm. Fourteen farmers and townspeople spent a day putting up seventeen cords of wood. Samuel Coppes, the banker, put up the dinner — six gallons of oysters, crackers, bread and butter and pie.

Out of a demonstration of pitching the "open shoe" (ringers), by L. B. Lacey of the National Horseshoe Pitchers of America, Nappanee Horseshoe Pitchers was organized in March 1924.

Shuffleboard hit Nappanee with unabated fury in 1928 or 1929; six courts went in at the west edge of Community Park.

Miniature golf hit the area with alarming impact in 1930 when J. E. Tilman opened the first course on Saturday, August 2 adjoining the shuffleboard courts in the Community Park. Perry Ganger's Terrace Garden Course opened one week later at 900 East Market Street.

Brethren Service

WHILE the Brethren Service Center had its origins in the needs of Civilian Public Service camps in World War II, it reached its peak activity as a "nerve center" of world relief in the reconstruction period following that war.

For conscientious objectors, the government had provided barracks in the various CPS camps. Brethren, Mennonites and Friends provided the staff to operate them, and the food and clothing for the men. To do so, Brethren Service Commission was set up late in 1941. Rev. John D. Metzler of Nappanee organized the routing of trucks picking up supplies. Most was hauled directly to the camps; some things however needed storage and trans-shipment. As facilities at Camp Lagro, and in New Paris became clogged, Nappanee was selected for a gathering and distributing center.

Under Metzler's direction, the Loudermilk building (Stuckman-Hall Shoes today) was rented in early 1942. Downstairs there was an office and bookstore; upstairs an apartment and reception center for food and clothing. Its purpose was primarily the fulfillment of obligations to CPS camps; even then however some limited amounts of food and clothing were being shipped to needy here and elsewhere.

By 1943 there was a basic change in direction. A baler was moved into the building, and a bale of comforters was put up as the first of hundreds of tons of supplies by the Brethren for humanitarian purposes. In world relief efforts then, Nappanee's center predated New Windsor, even Church World Service.

Meanwhile, in 1944 one Dan West of Middlebury originated the Heifer Project for restocking dairy herds of war-torn countries. According to Metzler, the first office of the project, which was to go nationwide with abundant success, was also in the Loudermilk building. The Metzler farm south of town served as the collection point for cattle, horses and goats for Greece, Poland and other destinations.

Nappanee Soap

In the summer of 1946 the old Nappanee Carriage Works was purchased and Brethren Service activities were centered in that new location. At the same time soap manufacturing was announced. While the soap "plant" was essentially an old railroad tank car set up on end, extending up thru the three stories, with added gear and appurtenances, production of unscented, uncolored soap for toilet and laundry use started on August 2, 1946. From fats and fryings of local individuals and commercial sources — and quantities from long distances — production reached nearly fifty tons per year, shipped in large cakes.

To encourage self-help, the International Gift Shop was opened in 1955, with handcraft items from Japan, Africa, Latin America, the Near East, India and elsewhere.

ORGANIZATIONS

Temperance Organizations

The Women's Christian Temperance Union was not the first temperance organization in Nappanee. An Anti-Tobacco Society made its appearance in May 1879. Apparently its efforts were in vain for Nappanee had at least five cigar factories between 1890-1908. Next was a Good Citizen League, also known as the Anti-Booze League formed in 1896. It stood for the enforcement of a new liquor law; but the newspaper reported that "business men are not inclined to fall over one another in an effort to join." Not until 1899 did the women join the ranks of the national WCTU and pledge to obliterate the 1,000 saloons in Indiana, two or three of them in Nappanee. The chapter exists today, concentrating on educational purposes. That makes it the oldest organization in the city.

Social and Literary Societies

Social life in Nappanee was not long in arriving. An open invitation to "swing the light fantastic at Johnson's Hall to music furnished by the Nappanee orchestra" appeared in an 1880 newspaper. In 1885 young people organized a Dancing Club which staged numerous masquerade and Grand Balls over a period of many years.

Teachers of the schools called a meeting for the purpose of organizing a literary society. "We hope to see their efforts crowned with satisfactory results. Let us give their enterprise encouragement," stated the *Nappanee News* of December 4, 1884. Apparently their efforts were not crowned, because that concluded records of the society.

Ten years later another group known as the Alphas Literary Society stated its purpose as the "growth and development of the mind in literary work together with the fluency of speaking with free discussion of such topics of interest as might be prudent." Interest dwindled quickly. The *Nappanee News* soon lamented that "it would be more profitable to spend an evening in a debating school than to sit about a store stove discussing the inferior qualities of your neighbor or bewailing one's sad lot in this life's struggle."

Among the many clubs and organizations which earlier citizens joined, some did not survive very long; later newspapers did not mention them beyond the point of inception. The list is never ending. The Flower Society, 1884; Sporting Club, 1884; Reading Circle, 1892; Medley Club, 1892; Chautauqua Literary Club, 1893; Music Club, 1905; Delta Sigma Upsilon, 1919.

The Thursday Club began as a social and sewing club in 1899 and was originally named the Thimble Club. In 1908 it was reorganized into a literary club and was named the Thursday Club. So in 1974 it will be three-fourths as old as Nappanee.

With special emphasis on current and educational topics, the Current Club literary society was organized in 1907. An answer to roll call consists of a brief review of a current event of interest to all members.

In addition to clubs already named and for which more information seemed available through newspaper accounts and their own histories, there are the Lyceum Club, 1933; Woman's Club, 1941; Mothers' Guild, 1947; Ever Ready Club; and Lady Lions, 1963. And not to be forgotten are the countless card-game clubs that came in for their fair share of popularity through the century.

Fraternal Organizations

The earliest fraternal group of any duration was the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, granted a charter on December 18, 1879, upon petition to the Grand Lodge by men of the community. Before 1906 it seemed to have faltered, but a reorganization that year promised a "strong lodge could develop." The last account of meetings was in 1932.

"A project is afoot to organize a Masonic Lodge in this place." So says the *Nappanee News* of March 4, 1880. 1885 is the date given for the institution of this Free and Accepted Masons #566, a secret fraternal order based on Brotherly love, Relief, and Truth. Helping to support a Masonic Home and Hospital in Franklin, Indiana, for aged members is one of its major projects. Nationally it is credited with being the oldest fraternal organization in modern history.

In 1921 the Nappanee Chapter of Royal Arts Masons was organized, a part of the York Rite of Free Masonry.

Late in February 1910 an auxiliary to the Masonic

This page sponsored by JOSEPH W. KINDIG & LOREN E. SLOAT, Lawyers
GENE A. HENSCHEN, Standard Oil Agent

Order, the Order of Eastern Star #367, was instituted in the Masonic Hall with twenty-five charter members. The newspaper recorded that "Ladies came in autos from other towns although the night was stormy and cold, with the ceremonial work being done by the Bremen ladies." Wives, daughters, sisters, mothers, and granddaughters of Masons are eligible for membership. The group supports a Masonic Home, cancer research, and provides educational scholarships for theological students.

Women who have served as Worthy Matrons of the O.E.S. are members of the Past Matrons organization.

A fraternal Benevolent Friends and Protective Society, the Chosen Order of Friends, was planned in 1888 and the "first degree" was conferred on July 26, 1888. It seems that the Order "soon fell by the wayside."

A Knights of Pythias fraternal organization was proposed in December 1890 with about thirty charter members. Hartmans' Opera House was used for the institution of the lodge a month later with some 2000 visiting knights from the area coming to Nappanee to help with the installation ceremonies. Because of the large class of initiates the celebration went on and on into the early morning hours. The *Nappanee News* reported it was a "great time for the town." This active group continued well into the 1940's.

Evidently the #139 Temple of Rathbone Sisters, an organization with its "first temple in the world at Warsaw, Indiana," instituted in 1896 with fifteen ladies aided by twelve gentlemen of the Knights of Pythias, was the predecessor of the Welcome Temple #139 of the Pythian Sisters. The latter was a secret fraternal lodge with rather formal ceremonies accompanying each monthly meeting in the K. of P. lodge rooms. Locally it went out of existence in the late 1940's.

The fraternal organization of Knights of the Maccabees first appears in records of 1895. It was identified as Tent #81, was termed "a prosperous order," with the last election of officers listed in 1921.

The *Nappanee News* names the officers of Ladies of the Maccabees in 1898, and 1921 dates the last record of the organization.

A new secret organization, Dominion of Thebian Legion, was begun in Goshen, which had for "its members the best citizens of that city. Nappanee has started out on the same line." The Goshen group did the initiatory work in June 1898, "which turned out to be quite an affair. Some of the Goshen men returned home about 2 o'clock this morning."

Called one of the strongest fraternal insurance orders of the day, a group was organized as the Independent Order of Foresters in 1906.

Service Clubs

Celebrating its fiftieth anniversary in 1971, the local Kiwanis Club International is more than half as old as Nappanee herself. Service to the community has been one of its chief objectives throughout the years. Besides its emphasis on fellowship, raising funds for limitless numbers of worthy causes has become a reason for existing. The club's motto is "We Build," giving primacy to the moral and spiritual values of life rather than to the material values.

Organized in 1952, this charitable organization takes an active interest in Nappanee's civic affairs. The Lions Club participates in various phases of the Eye Program, including Eye Bank and Leader Dog Program, and supports cancer control.

The local Rotary Club was chartered in February of 1906. Its purpose is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise. Its goals and objectives are described in its motto "Service above self."

Sororities

Kappa Kappa Kappa, familiarly known as Tri Kappa, stresses the purpose of promoting charity, culture, and education. It was organized in March 1967. Each year the sorority offers two scholarships totaling $500. One of these is a four year general college scholarship and the other is a one year vocational or technical training scholarship.

The philanthropic sorority of Psi Iota Xi was also organized in 1967. A scholarship is provided by this group for a NorthWood senior boy or girl who is preparing to further his or her education in speech or hearing therapy.

Veterans Organizations

A meeting was called in July 1885 to be held "over the Corner Hardware to complete a post of the Grand Army of the Republic. All old soldiers and sailors are requested to be present." A few days later a post was "mustered in" as the Berlin Post #402. George Parsons, the last of these Civil War veterans, died in May 1944 at the age of 96.

A sister group to the veterans of the Civil War Berlin Post was originally known as the Berlin Relief Corps. Wives and daughters were eligible for membership. Today that privilege is extended to granddaughters. It was chartered in April 1894 as Woman's Relief Corps #186. Its principles include Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty.

Following World War I veterans organized the American Legion which is composed of men of the United States Army and Navy who had participated in that conflict. December 31, 1919, was the organization date of the local Post 154. Veterans of succeeding wars have been eligible to join the ranks of this group.

Shortly after the American Legion was founded in Nappanee, women formed its auxiliary. Wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, and now granddaughters are eligible for membership. Unit 154 was organized in 1921.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6638 was chartered in April 1946. To be eligible for this veterans organization a man must have had thirty consecutive days of overseas duty and to have earned a Combat Theater ribbon.

The VFW Women's Auxiliary received a charter in May 1950. Having a husband, son, father, or brother who is a member of the VFW makes a woman eligible for membership in this organization.

In September 1951 an additional auxiliary was chartered; this is a state organization with local chapters

This page sponsored by **NAPPANEE ADVANCE NEWS**
FARM-HOME NEWS

and is as the name implies, the Fathers' Auxiliary of the VFW.

The local chapter of American War Mothers #77 was chartered in August 1951. A mother of a son or daughter who has served or does serve in any conflict involving the armed forces of the United States or her allies is eligible for membership.

Social Services

Through the years Nappanee has had concern for people needing help. A chapter of the benevolent organization of Modern Woodmen of America was listed in a 1902 newspaper. Its purpose was to help widows and orphans of deceased members who carried insurance in this order. In the 1920's there was the United Charities organization followed by the Community Chest. In 1971 Open Door became the clearing house for the social services of the community.

The Farmers Alliance was composed of a labor group adverse to monopolies, standing for equal rights and purporting "to develop a better state mentally, morally, socially, and financially, and to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices," pledging to visit homes where lacrated hearts are bleeding, to care for widows, and to educate orphans." 1890 was the date of its beginning; no account records its demise. Perhaps it, too, could be classified under Social Services.

Home Economics and Garden Clubs

Home Economics Clubs, stressing what their names suggest, include Young Home Makers County Extension, Progressive Home Makers Club, Nappanee Home Echoes, Federation of Rural Clubs, Guess Who 4-H Club, Busy Bees 4-H Club, Sr. Busy Bees, Cable Stitch Club, Better Homes, and Jolly Neighbors.

The Nappanee Botanical Club was a short lived local club organized in 1888. Awards were to be given to members for pressing and analyzing a certain number of flowers. One program consisted of a member's explaining "How plants grow from seeds." Exciting?

The Green Thumb Club might well be a modern version of this group. It was organized in 1973. Members share hints on flower gardening and arranging. Beautifying the city during the 1974 centennial celebration is one of its goals and purposes.

Youth Groups

1915 was the earliest date for Boy Scouts of America in Nappanee. Others followed and all were church sponsored groups. Interest ran in cycles until 1936 when concerted effort established Troop #33 with an effective program that has continued to the present time. Service clubs of Nappanee are the principal benefactors and sponsors of scouting activities which include Cub Scouts, for boys aged 8-10 or having completed the second grade, and reach to the age of eighteen. Scouting in Nappanee in 1969 held the distinction of having the country's largest class earning the highest order of Scouting, God and Country, under a program devoted to young men's activities in patriotic and religious concerns.

1922 saw the first Girl Scouts of America in Nappanee. It continued to be an active group for nearly a decade. A revival of interest took place in the early '40's, continuing into the '50's. Through those years many girls followed the motto BE PREPARED, earning merit badges by qualifying in numerous specified activities.

The first Camp Fire Girls group was a reality in 1916. Interest waned temporarily; in the '20's it was reorganized and again faltered. In the '50's it was revived and remains an important youth organization. Associated groups are the younger Bluebirds and the Horizon Club for high school juniors and seniors.

School Affiliated Organizations

The Band Boosters, a one time active organization of parents, grew out of the need for band uniforms in the high school in 1939. Through this group's efforts to obtain individual and organization contributions and through its many projects, goals were attained. It remained a functioning body well into the 1960's, aiding the bands in their years of programs and contests.

In November 1943 the Parent-Teacher Association became a part of the national organization whose purpose was to promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school church, and community by raising standards of home life, securing adequate laws for their care and protection, developing closer relations among homes, schools, parents, and teachers in order to develop the highest advantage in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education. This is no longer an active group.

Community Development Interest Groups

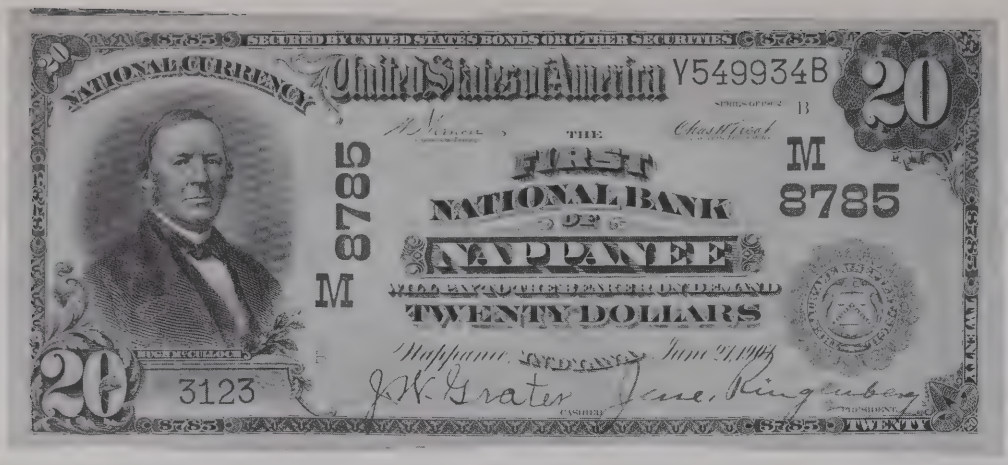
A Chamber of Commerce was "agitated" in 1920. An organization known as Greater Nappanee was created in 1921. The first Nappanee Merchants Association was formed in 1929-30, which functioned until 1958 when it became the Nappanee Chamber of Commerce Association. April 1970 saw the present Nappanee Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Its purpose it to advertise the community in such a way as to help entice new industry, merchants, and professional people to the city.

"For the past few weeks young men of Nappanee have been laying plans for a new civic organization," said the *Nappanee News* of May 22, 1941. Its key motto is leadership training in community development, with age limits of eighteen to thirty-five for membership. This is the Nappanee Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Consisting primarily of businessmen interested in promoting Nappanee by building homes and encouraging industry to come to the city, this non-profit corporation was chartered in October 1947. It is known as the Nappanee Development Corporation. Its most recent projects have included the development of downtown parking lots.

The Nappanee Investors Corporation is a profit corporation paralleling the Development Corporation, selling stock to investors interested in promoting Nappanee and community. Its major project has been the development of the Nappanee Airport. It was incorporated on April 1, 1964.

This page sponsored by **FRED'S FLOWERS — NAPPANEE GREENHOUSE;
APPLE MARKET & EVAY'S BARGAIN CENTER;
GOLD CROWN LANES & TORCH LOUNGE;
VANCE FREDERICK, Midwestern United Life Ins.**



(Above) *While this $20 bill was issued by a local bank in 1907 or thereabouts, it was in reality a Federal Note which circulated as freely as other paper money. Backed by U.S. government bonds, deposited by the First National Bank with the Comptroller of the Currency, up to 90% of the value (par, or market, whichever was lower) of the bonds deposited could be issued in similar bills. The notes, printed by the same agency which printed other paper money, arrived locally in sheets which, when signed by the President and Cashier of the bank, were cut apart with scissors. A fragment of another such note can be seen at the extreme left corner of the above. (Photograph courtesy Ronald Ringenberg).*

NAPPANEE'S FIRST BANKING HOUSE, *the Farmers & Traders Bank building, erected in 1889 (school office building site today).*

BEFORE we had a bank, even before there was any serious talk of starting one, Mechanics Building Loan and Savings Association was organized in December 1879, in the village's fifth year. There were two hundred shares at $500 each; subscribing stockholders paid for them at the rate of $2.50 per month each. With interest added, a share paid up in about ten years. No member could hold more than five shares; there were nine unpaid directors. Before a state charter could be issued, all two hundred shares needed to be sold; 118 went quickly, the remainder were taken up early in 1880, and operations began.

When $500 was accumulated, a boy was hired to ply the streets, ringing a bell and crying "Auction Tonight!" To the highest bidder went the loan. Old timers have contended loans generally brought a premium of about $15. One loan reported by the *News* in 1881 "sold for $106"; another in June 1882 "at $115," which was presumably in addition to the regular interest at 6%.

In the association's first printed statement of financial condition, in 1887, there were sixty-six loans outstanding. While total assets were not stated, the $2,139 interest received in one year indicates, at 6%, approximately $35,000 in loans outstanding. There are no references to the association after 1887. What happened to it? We don't know, unless it was eventually absorbed by Citizens Building Loan and Savings Association.

Farmers and Traders Bank

When Mechanics Building Loan and Savings Association was in its fifth year, Bechtel & Son, Bankers (Daniel Bechtel and sons Samuel and Henry) organized the Farmers & Traders Bank. In a "banking room" in the front part of the D. M. Best Agency on East Market Street (Stuckman-Hall Shoes today) general banking started in June 1884. "Samuel Bechtel," wrote the *News*, "has gotten the safe in his banking room. It is a beauty and weighs 8,500 pounds. It has a time lock and it is certainly a *safe* safe!" The firm moved into new quarters on South Main Street (school offices site today) in December 1889.

With its purchase in May 1891 by Samuel D. Coppes and his son Harvey, it remained a private bank as earlier. Application to become a state bank was filed in October 1914.

MONEY

While its new building was rising in 1915, temporary quarters were set up in the east room of the Wisler Building on East Market Street (Beauty Shop today). In August 1915, it moved into one of the finest banking houses in Northern Indiana. Except for a second floor added some years later, it was essentially the same building as today.

Citizens Building, Savings and Loan Association

With one loan association and one bank in town, Citizens Building, Savings and Loan Association was organized by eight men in the real estate office of D. M. Best in May 1886. It was incorporated May 31, 1886. It was liquidated in the 1960s.

D. M. Best and Co. Bank

A minor unsolved mystery surrounding Nappanee's financial institutions is an item in the *News* of August 19, 1886. "A new bank will be started in this place in September by Esq. D. M. Best and Co. The safe has already arrived and has been placed in the building on Market Street, which was recently moved there." Did it ever open? If so, how long did it operate? If it did not open, why? Unfortunately no further information has been found concerning it.

First National Bank

With forty stockholders (thirty of them farmers), representing a combined wealth of over a million dollars, Nappanee's second bank, the First National Bank (no relation to the bank of a similar name today) was organized in June 1907. For $500 the old Nappanee House and Annex were purchased. While banking rooms were hastily readied for business in the Annex, the hotel was moved and building began. Two years after its organization, the bank moved into its stately new headquarters in January 1909.

Farmers Loan and Trust Co.

The youngest of Nappanee's pre-1933 banks, and one of the strongest, opened for business August 30, 1922 in a two-story frame building on South Main Street (Hepler Barbershop today). In September 1924 it moved into the corner room of the Dietrich Building (Dunham north half today). In its new location its vault was one of the marvels of the town. With a foundation four feet below the basement floor, five thousand pounds of reinforced steel, 108 barrels of cement, and eighty yards of gravel went into its 8 x 12 x 8' hulk. The vault door was seven inches thick and weighed 11,000 pounds; five teams were needed to draw it from the depot. The bank opened with 166 deposit boxes.

The Bank Holiday of 1933

Financial havoc fell upon the city in March 1933 when by presidential proclamation every financial institution was locked up tight. All of Nappanee's, save one, came out of the turmoil without loss to depositors.

The Farmers & Traders Bank reopened the middle of March, the Farmers Loan & Trust Company on Tuesday, March 28, both under a general "B" classification. With reopening, there were no restrictions on deposits made after March 27; earlier deposits were initially subject to stringent regulation. Citizens Building, Loan & Savings Association reopened March 20, in a class of general license, which was the best obtainable for such an institution. Only the First National Bank (no relation whatsoever to today's institution of a similar name) failed to survive the holiday. It was forced into the hands of receivers, for liquidation, in September 1933.

State Bank of Nappanee

Out of the turmoil of the Banking Holiday, and the closing of all our banks, and the reopening of only two, efforts began immediately to merge all into one strong institution. State Bank of Nappanee opened for business on Monday, October 15, 1934 in the former Farmers & Traders Bank Building (school offices today).

First National Bank, Nappanee Branch

State Bank of Nappanee was merged into the First National Bank of Elkhart on August 15, 1964, thus becoming the third county office of that Elkhart-based institution. It moved into its new quarters on the site of the old Coppes Hotel Building on August 20, 1965.

St. Joseph Valley Bank, Nappanee Branch

In a 24 x 32 temporary building set up at the west edge of its present location, amidst building mud and mire, the Nappanee Branch of the St. Joseph Valley Bank opened for business on Friday, January 28, 1966. Its present structure was occupied in 1967.

This page sponsored by **Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Metzler; Schultz's Family Store; Blue Bell, Inc.; Ray Hopewell & Co.; Miller's Orchard; Marathon Oil Co.; McQuinn Supply Co., Inc.; Certified Equipment Co., Inc.; Lady Lions**

AS IT WAS the least desirable for the purpose, farming came relatively late to the Nappanee area. The south marsh, with its bogs and swamps, was considered worthless; it was left to the bull frogs and marsh grass. From the Kosciusko-Elkhart county line north, all was covered with native timber and undergrowth; there were low swampy spots there as well. Even had the land been prairie, and ready for the plow, it was a long way from the markets in Goshen and Elkhart. Except for just being here, this area had little going for itself prior to the coming of the railroad.

Farmers arrived here in the late 1850s and 1860s, barely a few years before the townspeople themselves. Their farming problems and methods therefore differed greatly from the real pioneers of the northern part of the county who worked the land in the 1840s, when there were still Indians about.

One thing had not changed; the land needed to be cleared of timber and underbrush. In some instances brush and dead limbs were piled against standing trees, and set afire. In others, deadening was a standard procedure. Rings were cut through the bark around the tree to prevent sap returning to the roots; the trees died. If properly set, a fire could then clear a field in relatively short order. In still other instances trees were felled, cut into logs that were piled high, and set afire. While immense quantities of valuable timbers were still wasted, the amounts were less than in older parts of the county. By the 1860s the value of walnut, ash, poplar was becoming known; logging and lumbering here was a vital part of the farming economy.

Once a few acres were cleared the crops that were planted were not unlike those of today. Corn and wheat predominated. But wheat was not especially good; the straw was generally heavy and the grain light. As for corn, it called for special attention. There were no Indians to contend with, but gophers, squirrels and moles ate the corn almost as quickly as it was popped into the ground; thousands of blackbirds attacked what was left. If and when it formed into ears, raccoons and squirrels feasted on it. Corn-fed squirrels, shot by the hundreds, turned up on many a dinner table.

There were other crops as well. In September 1865 Levi Ulery jotted down in his diary: "Took two loads of sugar cane to Bussard mill; got three barrels of juice." In November 1873 he wrote: "Took 31 bushels of flax to Goshen; sold it for $52. Paid $2.40 for a barrel of salt." Except for soybeans then, crops were not unlike today's.

The South Marsh

On the marsh it was a different story. As late as the 1880s the *News* reported marsh land was "going begging for purchasers at $5 an acre." To G. N. Murray, editor of the *News*, goes much of the credit for recognizing its potential. "There would be quite a speculation," he wrote

(Above) W. T. GRAHAM MARSH, *1898.* (Center) ONION CARNIVAL CROWDS, *looking south from the square.* (Bottom) NAPPANEE ONIONS, *1909. A postcard montage for publicity-souvenir purposes.*

FARMING

in 1893, "for some one to clear up the tract of marsh land south and grow mint. Jonathan Hillbish, living near Bristol, is extensively in the business of raising mint from just such land considered worthless, for anything but marsh grass, weeds and willows. He gets 38 pounds of oil of mint per acre, worth $2.25 to $3 a pound. Here is a rare opportunity for a speculation by making worthless land more valuable than the best farm land."

As far as mint was concerned, Murray's hints were not attended to. As for the marsh itself, large tracts were purchased, drained and developed. Murray reported constantly upon activity there. "In 1893-94," he wrote, "W. T. Graham dropped onto a large tract of marshland southeast and turned it into a garden spot." Twenty-five people were employed by him raising onions and potatoes, shipping both in quantity.

Others came as well; roads of sorts were built. Murray took many a reporting excursion, driving through the marsh over roads "that fairly shook under the weight of the horses." As its potential was recognized, the muck lands became the "Klondike," presumably out of respect for the black gold of the land and its productivity; the people themselves became the "Klondike Gardeners."

By 1897 Graham alone had eighty acres under cultivation. "Nappanee Marsh" was advertised far and wide on his stationery; it was lettered on the sides of the boxcars which carried his produce. In clearing the land, Graham and others contended with varmints of various kinds. In one day in August 1898 fourteen rattle snakes were killed on his onion marsh.

"We looked in on the home of Graham's Rough Riders," wrote the *News* in 1899, of Graham's band of workers. "Within a large tent are a number of ground bunks of straw, and a blanket or quilt on each. A gasoline stove is the furniture; a motto "God Bless Our Home" over the door makes up the decoration. Here live a number of 'travelers' who have found employment with Graham. They come from all parts of the world and exist under many trials and tribulations; yet withal they gather at their tent door after working hours and through the curling smoke from corn cob pipes they spin their stories of real adventure through which they passed maimed in body and in character. There is among them a former member of the U. S. Cavalry that made the charge in the capture of SITTING BULL. Not less interesting is the story of that famous charge of the Rough Riders at San Juan Hill, by a participant."

It was on the marsh that farming and crops differed; it was there where the exotic ones prevailed. Onions. Lettuce. Hemp. Mint. All mixed with a variety of others.

"Onion Is King"

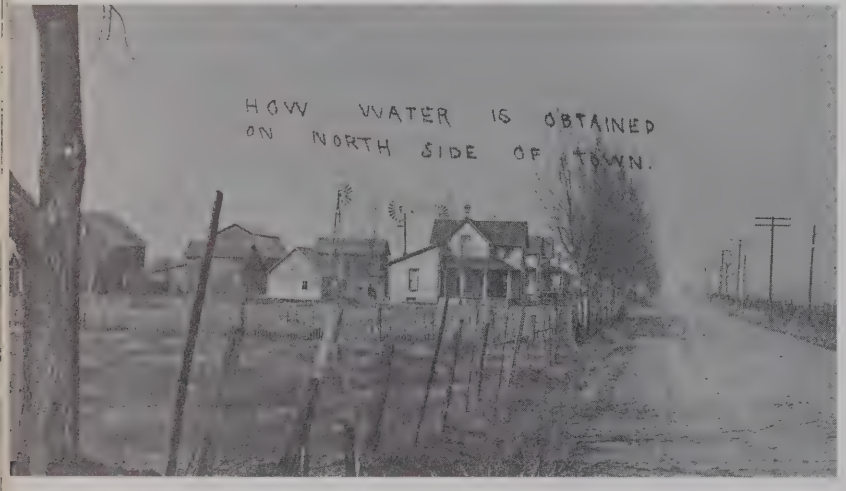
As early as October 1895 Graham shipped two carloads of potatoes and onions in one week. There were other onion growers in the area. That same year Howes and Binkley advertised: "Onion Toppers Wanted! Be ready on the Public Square or at a convenient place at six o'clock in the morning and go out to the farm."

Even at that early date the B&O put in a 500 foot siding one mile east of town (Fairmont Homes site), where Graham, Hurst and others had purchased a strip for cold storage houses, where produce could be loaded on cars from either side, and several at one time. The area became Onionville.

By 1905 there were as many as 35,000 bushels of onions in the various storages. Production increased by leaps and bounds. By April of the 1909 season 574 carloads had been shipped, a total of 287,000 bushels. Still more remained in storage. There were one thousand acres in onions in the Nappanee fields, employing nearly one thousand people, primarily in topping and weeding.

Nappanee had become the "Banner Onion Port of Indiana." The storage houses of Laughlin, Hartman Bros., W. O. Yarian and Ralph Moore were alive with

This page sponsored by **Jay-Dee Cleaners; State Farm Ins.—Ernie Crilow; Owners Discount Corp.; Re-Lax-O Products, Inc.; Maynard Schrock, Attorney; Patricia's Ladies Apparel; Schmucker's LP Gas & Store; Templeton Shell Service**



(Top) STOCKYARDS, 1910, *south of today's First National Bank parking lot. In background, left: onion storage house. Background, right: Nappanee Furniture Company buildings (now Mutschler's east plants). Foreground, right: Nappanee Canning Company, later hemp factory, on site of today's Mutschler office building.* (Center) NAPPANEE HEMP FIELDS, *1915.* (Bottom) NORTH ROAD, *1910 (now highway 19), looking north from the bridge.*

activity. There was so much activity, talk started of an Onion Day, advancing the town's chief crop. Promoted by the Onion Growers Association, it was to become the largest and most successful promotion of the town.

The Onion Carnival

For the first one, on Wednesday, August 25, 1909, there were the largest crowds yet to assemble in Nappanee. The day was successful beyond anticipation.

"Onion is King," proclaimed the big electric sign of Howenstein-Burbach. All the town's decorations were onion-oriented. Stretched across Main Street was a banner with WELCOME! in letters made from red and white onions. There were onion displays in merchants' windows; there were prizes galore for onion exhibits. The onion topping contest in the railroad park, with five contestants topping two bushels each, attracted huge crowds.

Six to eight thousand people gathered to see the balloon ascension and parachute drop by Mme Susanne Raymond. She came down in a plowed field 1½ miles northeast of town in the vicinity of the Culp school, whilst the balloon was picked up near the Brick Church.

There were crowds in the streets to see the 'Slide for Life' by Prof. D. J. Raymond; the High Dive by Prof. L. W. Simmons; the Tightwire performance by the Fothergill Sisters. There was an auto parade with 18 decorated cars, five carrying the Nappanee Band discoursing music as the parade moved down the streets; two cars carrying the minstrel band. There was a Baby Show in the park.

For the sports fans there was a Rod and Gun Shoot, and a double header baseball game with Garrett. There was a ½ mile pace on the south highway from town, and a motorcycle race, with six starters, on West Market Street.

"Nappanee," wrote the *News,* "with her wide paved streets can hold a considerable lot of people." On every train from Wednesday to Friday the crowds departed.

For the second Onion Carnival, in 1910, rains kept the crowds under expectations. Many left before Prof. Simmons went up in his balloon; still, the ascension was seen by an estimated 7,000 people. The Industrial Parade was a highlight. There was the inevitable baseball double header, with the Nappanee Tigers whipping Auburn twice. So successful was the show, it was a consensus the Carnival should be extended to two days.

Out of necessity the Third Carnival, in 1911, was a four day event. An estimated seven to ten thousand people were on hand for the first day, a Wednesday. The following day it rained cats and dogs; hastily the festival was extended two more days. Friday was as good as the opening day; but by Saturday crowds had dwindled to no more than 3,000 people. Still, in the Industrial Parade there were 46 cars and rigs and 44 wagons.

For an estimated twenty thousand people, the Fourth Carnival, in 1912, became Onion Days and Homecoming. There were such crowds the B&O could accommodate in comfort little more than half; people rode baggage cars, or whatever space they could squeeze

into. Even with the addition of another coach, there was over-crowding of the trains. Except for injury to the balloonist, who suffered a broken leg and facial injuries, the two days were a success. Still, it was the last of the Onion Days.

Four large and successful promotions had brought scads of people; but what could the town do for an encore? Particularly since success had encouraged competition. Other towns were stealing Nappanee's thunder with onion shows of their own.

For the growers, onions (which had been a little old gold mine) suddenly became unprofitable. Prices fell, growers lost heavily. Further, yields were not keeping pace with those elsewhere. Among the seventeen states growing onions, Indiana had slipped to second lowest in average yield. Still other problems developed. More and more the elements needed to be reckoned with. As the soil was worked, and loosened, high winds sweeping across the lowlands blew out the seed and buried other parts of the fields. There was early frost to contend with. Weeds and grass called for stoop labor in abundance; costs got out of hand. Muck growers sought more profitable crops.

The Hemp Fields

As early as 1910 W. W. Stauffer grew two successful crops of hemp near Silver Lake. In this immediate vicinity, hemp was introduced in a big way in 1912 by G. C. Logan and the brothers Laughlin, A. A. and Harry. Over onions, hemp had some decided advantages. After it had been sewn with a grain drill, it needed little work. It grew "splendidly" on the marsh, so dense and high the grass and weeds had not a chance. By July it was ten feet tall. "One may stand up in an ordinary buggy," wrote the *News* in 1913, "and just see over the top of the hemp." By September, when it was ready to cut, it was 12 to 15 feet tall; the muck was held intact against heavy winds.

Harvesting was the headache. While it was usually cut by hand, Ulery Bros. rigged up several machines described as on the "principle of an old self-rake for cutting wheat," but with a five-foot bar, two rakes and two "knockers," drawn by four to six horses. To protect their feet — which would have been cut to ribbons by the stubble — steel sandals were riveted to the horseshoes.

Spread thinly over the stubble of the fields, the stalks were allowed to ret, much like flax. Dried, later, they were fed lengthwise through breakers that cracked the woody stalks to release the fiber. "The hemp fields of Logan-Laughlin," wrote the *News* in 1912, "have ten or twelve Negroes running breakers, much like old-fashioned flax breaks. They have one machine run by gasoline engine, called by the Negroes, 'cracker,' which cracks the wood, but not the fiber." (Chemical-mechanical attempts to by-pass field retting are covered herein in the "Workshops" section).

For hemp, the market seemed unlimited. The fiber was used for twine and cordage; three hundred tons were used annually by the Boston Navy Yards alone. Even the by-products (hurds, the woody stalk; and tow or flyings, the short tangled fibers) appeared to have potential for good book papers and strong bagging. Production increased greatly; by 1915 nearly 96% of the hemp production of the country was in the Nappanee fields!

Suddenly, demands for hemp which seemed insatiable, were satisfied. Again, muck farmers sought new crops.

Spearmint and Peppermint

Mint had first been grown in the early 1800s in Wayne County, New York; it spread westward as former swamps and marshes were found to be ideal for its cultivation. The very best areas appeared to be those that had originally supported growth of sphagnum moss and tamarack. Murray of the *News* made the initial pitch for mint growing and muck in general in 1893. Not many farmers took his advice. To what pioneer goes the credit, we do not know. By 1900 peppermint looked less inviting than it had earlier. "Peppermint raising, which in years gone by lined the pockets of many farmers," wrote Murray in 1900, "has ceased in Elkhart county. Though the exception is found among some of the most prosperous farmers of the county."

In this vicinity, mint had had its first boom and bust. It was to have a long and checkered record of peaks and dips, booms and bust.

Onion farmers, who'd seen yields and prices fall after 1912, planted hemp, cabbage, and mint. Until then, most of the latter had been distilled by "crude methods" not otherwise explained. In 1913, Hartman Bros. installed a "new and expensive plant" in a 28 x 32 building southeast of town, for distilling mint from their fifty acres. By a Michigan buyer, it was pronounced one of the best he had ever seen. Its operation is fully described in the *News* of August 29, 1913. Mint oil was then fetching $3 a pound.

Besides Hartman Bros. there were other fields in mint, and at least one other still, that of John Burkholder. On one wagon load that September Burkholder hauled to town $9,000 worth of the oil, representing his own production and that of several others. While other farmers needed to haul dozens of loads of produce, in a single one Burkholder carried far more in value.

From ten thousand acres of reclaimed swamp and marsh, in two states (Indiana and Michigan), came 284,000 pounds of oil in 1924 — most of the mint oil of the United States, and one-half the world production! With 7,101 of those acres, Indiana led all the states, with Michigan a poor second with only 3,878 acres. That year oil reached as high as $14 a pound. So concentrated was the growing in this area that efforts were made in 1926 to move the mint oil market from New York to South Bend; they were not successful.

Incidentally, in that period George Carl received and weighed oil, and gave warehouse receipts, insured by a South Bend bonding company. With them, growers could draw money from local banks to a certain percent.

Meanwhile, speculation and higher production resulted in lower prices; by 1927 the price dipped to $2.50. Many a grower and speculator, here and elsewhere, lost their shirts.

Muck farmers, and others, continued their search for more profitable crops.

This page sponsored by **James O. Miller, OD; North Main St. Mennonite Church; Wegmiller's; Sprite Mfg. Co.; Brethren Service Center; Howard's Drive-In; Holdeman, Fulmer & Co.; Ray's Floor Center**

(Top) MERRILL CULP BLOSSER
(Center) MAX GWIN
(Bottom) BILL HOLMAN

FROM NAPPANEE have come more top-notch cartoonists per capita than from any other city in the world. That claim ought to stand up for quite some time. Still other Nappaneeites have made their marks on the national scene in other endeavors. At the risk of unintended omissions, some will be cited herein.

Merrill Culp Blosser

A local figure or two, and two national ones gave direction to Merrill Blosser's early cartooning career. Unfortunately that of the local figure was in the wrong direction! Blosser had taken to drawing at an early age. Just out of grade school, a series of caricatures of his school faculty came to its attention. What they saw, pleased them not. Blosser was booted out of school.

For Blosser it was no great loss; he came to the attention of national figures who gave proper direction to his efforts. At 12 his prize-winning entry in *National Magazine's* writing contest won him a trip to Washington. Poking around the White House, it has been related, he borrowed pencil and paper from the President's desk, and sketched Teddy Roosevelt. "Bully," TR is said to have thundered, and kept the boy on half a day talking and encouraging him in his work.

When Thomas Marshall was campaigning for governor in Nappanee in 1908, Blosser gave the future governor (later to be Vice President), two sketches he had done of him. Marshall responded with encouragement.

Blosser's cartooning career really got off the ground when his comic strip "Freckles and His Friends" first appeared on September 20, 1915. When Blosser was honored in May 1965 by fellows of the National Cartoonists Society, "Freckles" was the oldest comic strip still "piloted" by its creator. And the only comic strip in history ever to reach its Golden Anniversary under the personal direction of its original writer-cartoonist. "Freckles" was retired August 28, 1971.

Several of the local cartoonists who followed Blosser credit him greatly for their own successes.

Irby J. Good

Irby J. Good was born in Nappanee to Anna (Rohrer) and Isaiah R. Good on March 16, 1885, four years before the elder Good was elected to represent the 4th ward on the town's first Town Board in 1889. Irby Good attended Otterbein College, and Indiana Central College. From September 9, 1915 until his resignation in 1944 he was President of Indiana Central College, in Indianapolis. He died several years later.

Max Gwin

Max Gwin, the youngest of Nappanee's school of cartoonists, happily has remained among us. While he modestly protests he has never hit the big league, as did the others, the facts appear to indicate otherwise. His regular comic strip "Slim and Spud," which he began drawing in 1955, appears regularly in *Prairie Farmer,* the prestigious journal in its field. In addition to still another regular comic strip, his cartoons have appeared in two

CELEBS

hundred ninety magazines, including most of the major ones.

He has combined his cartooning with commercial art. While the tail begins to wag the dog, he has managed to maintain a mix of the two, maintaining a good position in cartooning, his first and real interest.

He graduated from Nappanee high school in 1942. After Ball State, and a hitch in the army, he attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Chicago. And he is our only cartoonist to have also studied at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Bill Holman

Forty years ahead of his time Bill Holman was running his own printed Laugh-In Show. What he was doing in his comic strips in the 20s and 30s — multi-panel puns, gimmicks, quick belly laughs, situations — Rowan and Martin were doing in the 60s and 70s before TV cameras.

While he was born in Crawfordsville, Holman grew up in Nappanee, where his mother operated a millinery store. When he wasn't selling popcorn and peanuts in the aisles at the old Auditorium, his wacky pranks were throwing fits into his teachers and elders. Some were quite certain he'd come to no good. As a boy here he wanted to be a fireman, which may account for his most popular and zany character, "Smokey Stover and the Smoke Eaters."

After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Chicago, he did layouts for the Chicago Tribune's Wake of the News; he free-lanced in most of the major magazines. For newspapers he developed Laugh-In type strips, "Wise Quacks," signed by Doctor Bill Holman; "Junior, a Loose Nut" — and of course "Smokey Stover." He was hired by the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate in 1935 to do it regularly as a Sunday strip; for the daily papers "Nuts and Jolts" was developed. In both, Nappanee has turned up more than once. Holman has also appeared in three movie shorts, and has worked in TV and radio.

Ralph E. Jerles

Until his retirement in 1972, Ralph Jerles was for ten years Organist at The Mother Church, First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, perhaps the most prestigious and respected Church Organist position in America. On the largest denominational church organ in the western hemisphere he made the first solo recording, "Music from the Mother Church."

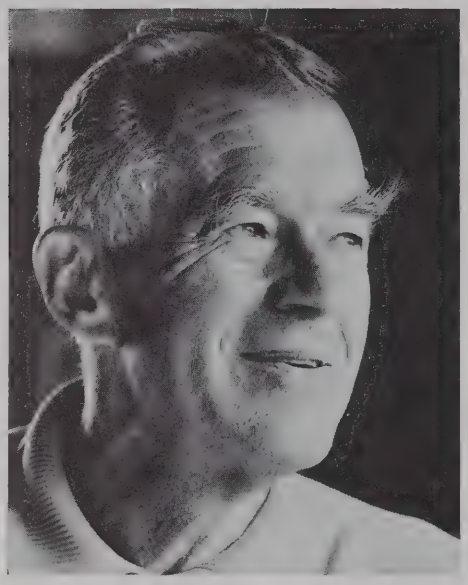
He was born in Nappanee, December 4, 1921; he graduated from Nappanee high school. From the age of twelve he studied piano and organ. After three years in the army, he continued his musical studies at South Bend; at the Longy School of Music in Massachusetts; in Master Classes at the Organ Institute at Methuen; and in summer study with European masters on the Continent. He graduated cum laude from the New England Conservatory of Music; from Trinity College of Music in London he received a Licentiate, a degree somewhere between a Masters and a Doctorate. On half a dozen organ tours of Europe he played the oldest playable organs of a dozen countries.

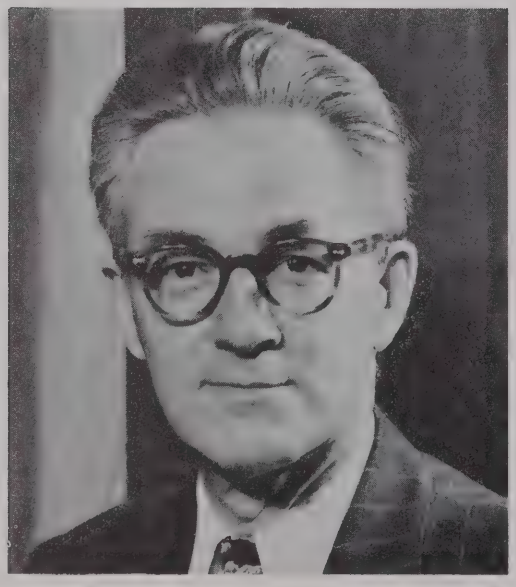
His first organ position was at the First Presbyterian Church in Nappanee in 1939-42. For the ten years prior to his Boston appointment he was Organist at the Second Church of Christ, Scientist, and the Eighth Church of Christ, Scientist in New York City. He is currently living in Nappanee, with his future "retirement" plans not completely formulated.

George J. Nold

Maj. General George J. Nold, a brother of Andrew Nold, was born in Nappanee, October 13, 1893. A graduate of Nappanee high school and Purdue, he served in the army engineers in both world wars. In World War II he directed construction of air bases in Alaska, and the Alcan Highway; he was engineer of the Tenth Army in the Okinawa campaign. He later served as Deputy and Acting Chief of Engineers. At his retirement in 1955 he was director of the Joint Construction Agency, European

This page sponsored by **Jerry Lentz, DDS; John E. Mast Construction Co.; Nappanee Missionary Church; Berlin Woman's Relief Corp.; Mrs. Harold Coppes; Bonacorsi's Super Dollar, Inc.; Carl Hoffer Sunoco; Current Club**





(Top) RALPH E. JERLES, *at the organ of The Mother Church, First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston.*

(Center) FRED NEHER.

(Bottom) HENRY MAUST.

Command, which handled building for all American fighting services on the Continent. He died in Nappanee, June 2, 1962; burial was in South Union Cemetery.

Andrew N. Nold

In the summer of 1925 Donald B. MacMillan, arctic explorer, commanded an expedition exploring the North Pole region by airplane. Commanding the aviation unit was Lt. Commander Richard E. Byrd, in the first of his Polar expeditions. One of the six naval flyers, and one of the two to make the historic dash to the North Pole region, was Andrew Nold, then 27, who had volunteered for the service. A son of Jacob and Margaret Nold, he grew up in Nappanee and lived here until May 1917 when he joined the naval air service. In later years he worked for the State of Pennsylvania; he died January 4, 1967.

Fred Neher

While he was still in high school in Nappanee, Fred Neher took a correspondence course in cartooning. As the ad promised, he is said to have sold almost his first efforts to a magazine. At one time or another since, his cartoons have appeared in every major magazine using cartoons. Perhaps the most famous have been his hospital babies, "Us Moderns," which he created for *American Magazine;* for years hospitals everywhere have used them as decorations.

As with other Nappanee cartoonists, some of his earliest work appeared in the high school annuals; he was cartoonist for three years 1920-1922. One of his earliest newspaper cartoons appeared in the *Advance News,* February 2, 1922.

In the mid 1930s he created his daily and Sunday feature, "Life's Like That" — panels of Will-Yum, Some Punkins, Mollie & Ollie, Shelley Ann, and others that have appeared regularly in 265 newspapers in North and South America.

Henry Maust

Henry Maust began his career as a cartoonist. His earliest appearance in print was probably the front-page editorial cartoon he did for the *Nappanee News* of July 25, 1913. He was also cartoonist for "The Senior Class," the yearbook of 1913. Even as late as 1914, when he was with *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* (along with Merrill Blosser), his bailiwick was still essentially cartooning.

Unlike the others of Nappanee's artists, he switched to painting and commercial art where he made his mark. As a leader in that field in Chicago and New York, his paintings have been used by Libbys, Swift, General Mills, Kraft, and others. As early as 1923 he received the Gold Medal for the best advertising painting of the year. In the years that followed, hardly a week passed that a painting of his did not appear in *Saturday Evening Post, Womans Home Companion,* or other national magazines. A watercolor of his hangs in the Historical Room at the Public Library.

Francis (Mike) Parks

Francis Parks (when his cartoons are signed with a first

name it is usually Mike), represents still another facet of the cartooning world practiced by Nappanee natives — editorial and political cartooning. While he was born in Liberty, Indiana, Francis Parks (son of a Presbyterian minister), came to Nappanee in time to enter the 8th grade here; he graduated with the class of 1917. In what must be one of his first public appearances in print, he was artist-cartoonist for *The Tiger,* the high school yearbook of 1917.

After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Chicago, he was with the *Cleveland Press,* switching to NEA, where Blosser was already established. He was editorial cartoonist in New York, and for the *Omaha Bee-News,* and the *Omaha World,* before going to the *San Francisco Call-Bulletin.* He retired from the latter in 1960. Among his effects are letters from the greats of the world — Richard Nixon, J. Edgar Hoover, Winston Churchill, Harry Truman — requesting (and receiving) originals of cartoons he had done in which they figured.

After retirement from political cartooning he wrote and illustrated a number of articles about the old west for the *Omaha World-Herald.* Two series have appeared in book form, copies of which are in the Historical Room at the Public Library.

Robert Pippenger

Few Nappaneeites visiting the sedate salons of the National Gallery in Washington are likely to know the head of Andrew Mellon is the work of a former townsman of ours, Robert Pippenger. Nor when viewing the Coral Reef exhibit at the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, or various exhibits at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, are they likely to see them as another facet of the work of the same gifted artist.

Much of his traditional sculpture (prior to 1952) was done while he worked with Jo Davidson. With James Fraser, designer of the buffalo nickel, Pippenger worked on the Albert Gallatin statue and the large figures and horses for the Arlington bridge. His triptych (St. John, the Madonna and Child and St. Joseph) is in the Episcopal Cathedral in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

In his later work with polyester resins and fiberglass he had done many museum exhibits in addition to those cited earlier. The Purina steer, for which he did the outside figure, is shown thruout the world.

From his paintings, a series of Amish farming scenes, recalling his youth in this area, formed the basis for a book, "Story Book Farm," published by the Childrens Press.

He was born in Nappanee, April 26, 1912, the son of Clayton and Dinah Pippenger. He studied art at the Herron Art School in Indianapolis; among many other rewards he received the coveted Prix de Rome in 1939.

Kay Rickert

From the earliest days the Rickert name has been one to be reckoned with in local musical circles. Dillman Rickert was a Charter Member of the Nappanee Cornet Band; Harley Rickert was a long-time Bandsman and director on the local scene.

(Top) ROBERT PIPPENGER.
(Center) KAY RICKERT.
(Bottom) FRANCIS (MIKE) PARKS.

This page sponsored by **J. C. Zimmerman, DDS; Northwood Estates Development Corp.; American Legion Post 154, Inc.; Mr. and Mrs. Elden Schrock; Nappanee Iron Works; Deisch Firearms Quality Gunsmithing; Nappanee Woman's Club; J. Maxwell Clouse, Postmaster**

The latter's daughter, Katharine (in later years she was billed as Kay Rickert), was for eight years violinist in the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington. As if that were not distinction enough, she was the first woman member of that musical aggregation. Hers was a musical family as well; she married Owen Lusak, symphony violist.

She was born in Nappanee, August 5, 1909. Prior to the National Symphony berth, in the 1930s she toured with the Stokowski All-American Youth Orchestra; for several years she was concertmaster of the North Carolina State Symphony Orchestra. When her husband joined the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the family moved to Ardmore, Pennsylvania, she, her husband and two other members of that famed orchestra's string section formed the Philadelphia String Quartet. While performing with it at the Bach Festival in Bucks County, she died May 21, 1965.

STATISTICS

CITY OFFICES

Political Complexion 1930-1972

	Republican	Democrat
1930		
Clerk		X
Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	3	3
1935		
Clerk-Treasurer		X
Councilmen	4	
1939		
Clerk-Treasurer		X
Councilmen	5	
1943		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	5	
1948		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	5	
1952		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	5	
1956		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	5	
1960		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Council	4	1
1964		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	3	2
1968		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	5	
1972		
Clerk-Treasurer	X	
Councilmen	2	3

POPULATION

Unless starred (*), figures are official census tabulations.

1874	* 31	Estimated
1880	* 547-592	Conflicting figures
1890	*1495	
1892	*2025	
1899	*2044	
1900	2208	
1910	2260	
1920	2678	
1930	2957	
1933	*3091	
1940	3028	
1950	3393	
1960	3895	
1970	4159	

*Pre-Nappanee 1874 population has been estimated by pioneers, primarily Rev. David Metzler in the *Advance News*, May 13, 1937. While 1880 is an official census, there was no separate enumeration for the town itself; it was included in township figures. Population was arrived at by the *News*, July 22, 1880 and July 2, 1890. The 1890 figures are those of Perry Early, census taker for the incorporation (*News*, June 18, 1890); those of 1892 are the figures of Frank J. Murphy who made a "canvass" of the town (*News*, December 15, 1892). The 1899 figures are those of the *News* of May 10, 1899; they are not otherwise identified. The 1933 figure is a special census or enumeration taken that year to preserve city status for Nappanee. (*Advance News*, October 12, 1933).

SPOOKS

FOR SEVERAL WEEKS in the fall of 1891 there had been rumors floating around town of haunted houses, spooks and hobgoblins. No one was able to run down the source of the stories, let alone pinpoint the place where the spirits were doing their dastardly deeds. On Friday, November 20, the editor of the *News* learned of some singular incidents on the farm of Christian Smucker, three miles west of town. As the story unfolded, nearly everyone was caught up in the excitement; hundreds of townsmen milled around the Smucker premises bandying about their speculations and explanations.

Supernatural Occurrences

From a reticent Smucker a tale of supernatural occurrences and manifestations began to emerge. Right after harvest small disturbances had descended upon the household. Articles disappeared from their appointed places, to turn up in unnatural surroundings. One of the horses was found with its head drawn up to the beam over the manger, its tail tied to another horse. Other horses were found mysteriously harnessed, with up to three sets of harness per horse!

The Spooks Observed

Two of Smucker's children, boys aged 13 and 11, had actually observed the spirit at work; but when they tried to communicate, the thing vanished into thin air. To them the apparition had appeared in a form resembling a cat, and as other animals; even as a dwarf, as a small boy and a little girl. As one of the boys watched from the shadows, a dwarf put collars on two horses, tied the hitch strap of one to the tail of the other and lead them from the stable. When the boys spoke, the spirit jumped over the manger, thru the hay mow and out of the door!

Smucker's veracity was beyond question. Too, he had an explanation for the manifestations: all could be traced to the "Seventh Book of Moses." Supposedly lost in biblical times, certain portions of the writings of Moses were still in existence; with possession of the knowledge therein, mere mortals could assume power over the devil. One of his neighbors, Smucker was certain, owned a copy of the "Seventh Book of Moses," and he was directing the power of an evil spirit upon Smucker to frighten him from his land, that the former might get the parcel at a "ghostly" figure.

While Smucker remained calm thru it all, he had found it prudent to consult with a certain Baker of Mishawaka. After one visit the pranks worsened; Baker was of the opinion the "business" had got too far along for his powers. Smucker was quite certain his own faith would ultimately stop the evil spirit cold in its tracks. Others had different ideas.

Pow-Wows Arranged

Wrote the *News* "John Heisel, Chief Sachem and Justice Mike Snyder, great Medicine Man, and a party who carried 'The Seventh Book of Moses' began a pow-wow at high noon on Saturday to stop the manifestation. While the trio worked faithfully, owing to some hitch in the proceedings, they were unable to get full control of the spiritual management, and the spooks are still at it."

As stories of spooks, evil spirits and mad-dogs made the rounds, a fortune teller and "sleight-of-hand performer" dropped into town. For New Year's Day another pow-wow was arranged. It was a quiet affair. A circle was formed, the stranger at its center in possession of "a little box, (one most of our readers have seen operated on the plan of the shell game)." With bated breath, everyone waited whilst the spirit wrote. When the "manuscript" was finished and it was passed around the awe-struck circle, it was found that the accused were members of the household!

"Here," commented editor Murray, "the *News* draws the mantle of charity." This writer will do likewise.

This page sponsored by FAIRMONT HOMES, INC.; STUCKMAN-HALL SHOES; ROD'S SERVICE CENTER; FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

FIRSTS

THE FIRST:

Arrest, Under a Town Ordinance. J. D. Coppes, July 15, 1889, for running his race horse too fast.
Auto Owner. C. D. Volkman, an Oldsmobile, April 1902.
Awning (French Roof). Seirer Bros., June 1879.
Awning (Canvas), Barney Uline Store, April 1885.
Balloon Ascension. B. S. Fothergill, Sat., August 27, 1899.
Balloon Tire Owner. Lowell Blosser, December 1923.
Baseball Game. July 1875.
Bath Tub Owner. Samuel Coppes (tradition)
Bicycle Owner. C. D. Volkman (tradition)
Bread Wagon. Star Bakery, December 1892.
Brick House. Summer-fall 1879.
Building Moved Here. A. T. Hochstetler, February 1875.
Cigar Maker. Benjamin Ramsey, August 1887.
Circus. Pacific Circus, June 6, 1879.
City Election. Tuesday, November 24, 1925.
Civic Theater Show. October 1, 1958.
Concrete Sidewalk. Samuel Coppes, June 1885.
Church Building. Summer 1875. (United Brethren)
Church Organization. Mennonites, pre-1875.
Death, (Recorded). Infant of Chris Houshour, February 1875.
Death, (Tradition). Infant of James Lake, date not cited).
Doctor. J. S. Smith, Spring 1875.
Dry Cleaner. Deisch Shop, 1913.
Dry Goods Store and Groceries. I. C. Bailey, Spring 1875.
Electric Street Lights. July 29, 1892.
Electric Sign. Howenstein-Burbach Hardware, April 1907.
Embalmer. Fales Bros., 1883.
Fire Chief. J. D. Coppes, July 8, 1892.
Garage (Auto). Yoder Bros., February 1910.
Golf Course (Miniature). J. E. Tilman Course. First game played Saturday, August 2, 1930.
Greenhouse. C. A. Dowswell, 1909.
Gunsmith. Henry Suisline, March 1889.
Hotel. Sam Hartman, Spring 1875.
House Built Here. C. D. Volkman, February 1875.
Ice (Artificial) for Sale. August 1890. (B. F. Frazier).
Incorporated Company. Nappanee Furniture Company, July 1887.
Jail Break. "Ditcher" Johnson, April 1901.
Labor Union. Nappanee Federal Labor Union, February 1903.
Laundry. Sarah Ruckman, November 1889.
Lot Sale (Recorded). Noah Reed, December 21, 1874.
Mail Delivery (Home), April 1, 1916.
Mail Delivery (Rural). June 16, 1900.
Manufacturer. Strohm Starch Boxes, November 1875.
Marriage. (Tradition). John Coppes-Malinda Strohm.
Musical Instrument. Nappanee Caliope, June 1875.
Organ Owner (Reed). John Stauffer.
Organ Owner, (Pipe). Presbyterian Church, 1914.
Parcel Post User. A. H. Kaufman, Jan. 1, 1913.
Pavement. North Main Street, October 1907.
Photographer (Itinerant). I. H. Iden 1878.
Photographer (Resident). Jacob Weygand.
Phone (Private). B&O, Nappanee Furniture Co., May 1885.
Phone Call (Long Distance). May 12, 1898 to Goshen.
Police Uniform Owner. Chief Pinkerman, October 1927.
Postmaster. J. S. Smith, March 22, 1875.
Saloon. W. A. Porter, Spring 1875.
Self-Service Grocery. Mullett Bros., January 1920.
Skating Rink (Ice). Warren Rickert—W. J. Rosbrugh, 1905.
Slot Machines Broken Up. March 8 and 15, 1905.
Spanish-American War Volunteer. A. N. Canberg.
Store. Henry Eby, or James Lake, February 1875.
Street Cleaner. May 1923.
Strike. Brick Cleaners, May 1886.
Talkies. Hoot Gibson in "The Mounted Stranger," Fairy Theater, Friday, March 14, 1930.
Telegraph Owners. Henry Strohm-Frank Brown, 1881.
Trial (Jury), City Court. August 20, 1970.
Twins. Isaiah Campbell family, March 26, 1879.
Wheat Sale. To Rickert & Co., August 1875.

This page sponsored by **Hively's Plumbing & Heating, Inc.; Mrs. Bernetha Price, Topeka; Hochstetler Harness Shop; Mr. and Mrs. Don S. Bloomfield; Nappanee Veterinary Hospital; Mr. and Mrs. DeVon (Happy) Hossler; Nappanee Electric Motors; Walter Clouse**

INDEX

Ager, George: Recollections, 9.
"Alerts," 34.
Anvil Shooting, 17.
Arson, 15, 31.
Auditorium, 26, 68, 70-71.
Automobiles, 66.

Bachelor Club, 78.
Bailey, J. C. Store, 11.
Balloon Ascensions, 71.
Baltimore & Ohio RR, building of, 5-8; depots, 9-11, 19-20; repair shops, 19; Time Card (1874), 7.
Band, Nappanee Cornet, 15, 25, 29, 68.
Band Wagon, 68.
Banks, 82.
Barbers, 63.
Baseball, 74.
Basketball, 77.
Bath Houses, 49.
Bee Hive Factory, 75.
Blosser, Merrill, 88.
Board Walks, 16.
Box Factories, 14, 42.
Brick House (First), 18.
Brick Manufacturing, 43, 70.
Brethren Service, 78.
Buffalo & Deer Park, 2.
Burglary, 30.
Burkholder, David, 3.
Business in Streets, 46-49.
Bus Service, 67.
Bushong, Dr., 14.

Calaboose, 30.
Charcoal Kilns, 42-43.
Chautauqua, 71.
Cheap John Store, 12, 15.
Chopping Bee, 78.
Churches, 50-56.
Cigar Making, 75.
Circus, 68, 72.
City Government, 26, 92.
City Hall, 29.
City Officers (vote), 92.
Civic Theater, 72.
Clubs, 79.
Community Building, 60, 75-77.
Community Park, 2, 72, 78.
Constable, 30.
Coppes Bros. (Zook and/or Mutschler), 22, 45, 67, 69.
Coppes Brothers, 22, 42.
Coppes Hall, 69.
Coppes Hotel, 47, 69.
Coppes Sawmill, 17, 22, 42.
Court, 31.
Cowsheds, 47.
Crime, 31.
Cross Walks, 12-13, 39.
Culp, Henry, 3.
Culp, John, 9, 16.
Currency, local, 82.

"Danville" (Nappanee), 20.
"The Dummy," 26, 31.

Eby Brothers, 4, 11, 18, 20.
Eby Depot, 6-7, 19.
Eby, Henry F., 7, 17.
Elections, town, city, 27-29, 92.
Entertainment Halls, 69.
Episcopal Church, 69
Express Office, 63.

Fahlstrom, 2, 14, 75.
Farming, 84.
Financial institutions, 82.
Fires and Firemen, 15, 32-37.
Fire Bell, 34.
Firsts, 94.
Florence Park, 2.
Flour Mill, 68.
Football, 76.
Fox Hunts, 74.
Fraternal organizations, 79.
Frazier, H. F., 70.
Freese, George, 33, 42.
Frevert Grove, 2.

Gas, 3.
Good, Irby J., 88.
Good & Schrock, 22.
Goodwill Hose Company, 32.
Government, 26.
Graham Marsh, 85.
Gun Clubs, 77.
Gwin, Max, 88.

Halls, 69.
Hamman, W. H., 6.
Hartman Bros., 22, 39, 43, 48, 69, 87.
Hartman Hall, 69.
Heifer Project, 78.
Hemp, 44, 87.
Hershberger, Leander, 21.
Historical Room, 62.
Hobgoblins, 93.
Holman, Bill, 89.
Horseless Carriages, 66.
Horse Races, 74.
Horse Shoe Pitching, 78.
Hose Cart House, 30.
Hose Companies, 32-35.
Houshouer, Christian, 3, 11, 25.

Indians, 2.
Interurbans, 65.

Jail, 30.
Jail Break, 30.
Jerles, Ralph, 89.
Johnson Hall, 12, 69.
J. P. Court, 31, 49.

Kiwanis Club, 62, 80.
Klondike, 85.

Labor Unions, 45.
Ladies Rural Club, 62.
Lake, James Store, 10, 11, 17.
Library, 14, 61-62.
Lights, Light Plant, 29, 37.
Locke, 4, 16-19.
Locke Horse Car Co., 16-17, 67.
Locke Station, 6-7, 20.
Log Cabins, 3.
Logging, 22, 84.
Lot Sales, Prices, 9.
Lumbering, 22, 84.

Mail, 63, 74.
Manchester College, 73.
Manufacturers, 42-45.
Marshal, 31, 37.
Marsh, 84-87.
Maust, Henry, 90.
Mayors, 28-29.
McIntyre Light Plant, 37.
Mellinger, J. C., 3, 22, 42.
Metzler Broom Shop, 3, 20.
"Metzlers Corners," 17.
Metzler, Daniel, 3, 5, 9, 16, 19.
Metzler, David, 6, 92.
Metzler, John, 5.
Metzler, Jonas, 6.

Miamis, 2.
Miller, Chauncey, 5.
Minerals, 3.
Miniature Golf, 78.
Mint, 85, 87.
Mound Builders, 2.
Movies, 71.
Mobile Homes, 45.
Municipal Center, 29.
Musical Shows, 70.
Mutschler Bros. Co., 22, 44.
(See Nappanee Furn. Co.).
Myers, Frank, 3, 22.

"Napanee," 10-20.
Napanee, House, 16, 30, 47, 83.
Napanee, Ontario, 21.
Nappanee Canning Co., 44.
Nappanee College, 73.
Nappanee Cornet Band, 15, 25, 29, 68.
Nappanee Furniture Co., 43-45, 67.
Nappanee Hotel, 15-16.
(See Napanee House).
Nappanee-Locke Rivalry, 16-19.
Nappanee News, 15, 40-41, following 96.
Nappanee Plat, 8, 9.
Nappanee Utilities Co., 39.
Neher, Fred, 90.
Neher, Jesse (clock), 62.
Nettrour, Jacob, 22.
Newspapers, 40.
Nickelodeon, 71.
Night Watchman, 31.
Nold, Andrew, 90.
Nold, George J., 89.

Oil, 3.
Onions, 84.
Onion Days-Carnival, 84.
Onionville, 85.
Opera House, 69.
Organizations, 79.

Paper Money (local), 82.
Parachute Drops, 71.
Parks, Francis, 90.
Pastimes, 68.
Pavilion, 71-72.
Pavilion Players, 72.
Paving, 26, 38-39, 86.
Peddycord Drug Store, 11.
Pippenger, Robert, 91.
Pole Raisings, 24.
Police, 30.
Police Tower, 30.
Politics, 24.
Ponds, 2-3.
Population, 3, 92.
Porter Saloon, 5, 12, 15.
Postoffice, 11, 19, 63.
Pottawattomis, 2.

Railroads (proposed), 64-66.
Rescue Hose Company, 32.
Rickert, Kay, 91.
Rivers (underground), 3.
Roads, early construction, 3.
Rupert, Elias, 3.

Savings & Loan association, 82.
Sawmills, 3, 22, 23.
Schools, 12, 56.
Seirer Hall, 14, 69.
Service Clubs, 80.
"Shawnee" (name), 20.
Ship Timbers, 23.
Shows, Traveling, 14, 71.
Shuffleboard, 78.
Side Walks, 39, 48.
Smallpox, 47.
Smith, Anson, 15, 40.
Smith, J. S., 11, 63.
Smoke Eaters, 32-35.
Smokey Stovers, 35, 89.
Soap Manufacturing, 78.
Societies, 79-81.
Spooks, 93.
Sports, 74.
Sprinkling Wagons, 38.
Stahley, Hall, 69, 72.
Stahley, P. C., 33
Stahly, Christian, 3.
Stahly, Henry, 9.
Steamer "Topeka," 22.
Street Business, 46-49.
Street Lights, 36.
Streets, Paving, 38-39.
Strikes, 45.
Strohm, Joseph, 11, 14, 42.

"Talkies," 71.
Tamarack Marsh, 5, 84-87.
Telephones, 35, 66-67.
Temperance, 79.
Tennis, 78.
Tent Shows, 68-72.
Theater, 71.
Thursday Club, 61, 79.
Timber, 5, 22.
Town Board, 27.
Town Government, 26-30.
Town Hall, 26, 29, 70.
Town Marshal, 31, 35.
Town Pumps, 13, 36, 48.
Trailer Manufacturing, 45.
Tremaine, Paul, 70.
Trolleys, 65.

Ulery, Levi, Diary, 3, 5, 22, 84.
Uncle Tom's Cabin, 72.
Underground Rivers, 3.
Union Canning Co., 44.
Union Sunday School, 51, 69.
United Brethren Church, 11, 14.

Vaudeville, 71.
Veterans Organizations, 80.
Volkman Brothers, 22.
Volkman, C. D., 10, 34, 66.

Watershed, 2.
Water Tank, 36-37.
Waterworks, 33, 36-39.
Waterworks Explosion, 34, 38.
Weygand, Jacob, 12-13.
"Wigwam," 24-25.
Wisler Town, 4.

Yoder Bus Lines, 67.
Yutang, Lin, 21.

Zinn, Frank, 22.
Zook, Daniel, 29, 70.

The Nappanee Weekly News.

Independent in Politics and Religion and Neutral in Nothing.

VOL. I. NAPPANEE, IND., THURSDAY MARCH 27, 1879. NO. 1.

The News

IS ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY.

—BY—

A. B. SMITH,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

—AT—

NAPPANEE, - - INDIANA.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One copy one year $1 50
One copy six months 75
One copy three months 40

☞ PAYABLE IN ADVANCE. ☜

RATES OF ADVERTISING

One column, one year ..... $ 100
One half column, one year 60
One quarter column, one year 30
One column, three months 25 00
One half column, three months 12 00
One quarter column, three months 7 00

Local notices, five lines or less, 25 per year
Legal notices, five cents per line for each insertion.
Advertisements to be settled quarterly

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

J. S. SMITH,

PHYSICIAN & OBSTETRICIAN,

NAPPANEE, INDIANA

Office and residence corner Elm and Market streets. Professional calls responded to at all hours of day or night. Diseases of Women a specialty. Diseases of a private character strictly confidential. nl

JOSEPH K. JULIAN, M. D.,

NAPPANEE, INDIANA

Office, corner Main and Market streets, second floor. Prompt attention given to all calls. Rooms will be open and calls early in the morning as possible nl

C. H. SWARTZ,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,

NAPPANEE, INDIANA.

Office and residence on South Clark street. All calls promptly attended to both day or night. All chronic diseases of long standing a specialty. nl

J. E. MILLER,

HOMEOPATHY PHYSICIAN.

NAPPANEE, INDIANA.

Office and residence one mile east of town. All calls promptly attended to. nl

H. T. Montgomery, M.D.

PHYSICIAN & SURGEON

WAKARUSA, INDIANA.

Office Hours:—7 to 9 o'clock, A. M.; 7 to 9 o'clock, P. M.

M. BATTY. C. ESPARKLIN.

BATTY & SPARKLIN,

PHYSICIANS

AND SURGEONS,

GOSHEN, INDIANA.

We respectfully request our friends to call early in the morning, when the office will be open and we will attend to them as promptly as possible. Those desiring night calls will please call at our residence, corner Main and Lincoln streets. Office hours from 8 to 10 A. M.

W. F. FEDDYCORD,

Justice of the Peace

COLLECTION AND INSURANCE AGENT.

Nappanee, - - Indiana.

Will give prompt attention to all business that may be intrusted to his care. Office, in residence building. nl

NAPPANEE HOTEL,

NAPPANEE, - - INDIANA.

FRED D. RICHMOND, Prop.

The Nappanee is the only first-class house in the city. The best of accommodations at uniformly low rates. Good sample Rooms. Best stables for Commercial Travelers. nl

RESTAURANT,

J. C. BETTERAUGH, PROP.

Meals served at all hours for 25 cents. Oysters when in season. A fine line of Tobaccos, Cigars and confectionary always on hand. Fresh bread received daily and sold for 5 cents per loaf. Corner Main and Market streets.

J. H. HALL,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Notary Public and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. All claims left with me will receive prompt attention. NAPPANEE, Indiana.

BURR & KREIDER,

MANUFACTURERS OF ALL KINDS OF

WOOD PUMPS

NAPPANEE, INDIANA.

Repairing promptly attended to. All work warranted. Wheat, Corn, Oats and Meat taken in exchange for work. nl

H. L. WILSON,

ATTORNEY AT LAW

GOSHEN, INDIANA.

March 1, 1879. nl-1y

We Want a Grave-Board for Ma.

A boy, not over 11 years old, whose pinched face betrayed hunger, and whose clothing could scarcely be called by the name, dropped into a carpenter shop the other day, and after much hesitation explained to the foreman:

"We want to get a grave-board for ma. She died last winter, and the graves are so thick that we can't hardly find hers no more. We went up last Sunday, and be came awful near not finding it. We thought we'd get a grave-board, so we would'nt lose the grave. When we thought we'd lost it Jack he cried, and Bud she cried, and my chin trembled so I could hardly talk!"

"Where is your father?" asked the carpenter.

"Oh, he's home but he never goes up there with us, and we shant tell him about the board. I guess he hated ma, for he wasn't home when she died, and he wouldn't buy no coffin nor nothing. Sometimes when we are sittin' on the door-step talking about her, and Jack and Bud are cryin', and I'm remembrerin' how she kissed us all before she died, he said we'd better quit that, or we'll get what's bad for us. But we sleep up stairs, and we talk and cry in the dark all we want to. How much will the board be?"

The carpenter selected something fit for the purpose, and asked:

"Who will put it up at the grave?"

"We'd take it up on our cart," replied the boy, and I guess the graveyard man will help us put it up.

'You want the name painted on don't you?'

'Yes sir, we want the board white, and then we want you to paint on it that she was our ma, and that she was forty-one years old, and that she died the 2d of November, and that she's gone to Heaven, and that she was one of the best mothers ever was, and that we are going to be good all our lives and go up where she is when we die. How much will it cost, sir?'

'How much have you got?'

'Well,' said the boy, as he brought out a little calico bag and emptied its contents on the bench, Bud drawed the baby for a woman next door and earned twenty cents: Jack he weeded in the garden and earned forty cents, and he found five more in the road: I run of arrands and made kites and fixed a boy's cart and helped carry some apples in a store, and I earned sixty-five cents. All that makes a hundred and thirty cents, sir, and pa don't know we've got it, cause we kept it hid in the ground under a stone.'

The carpenter meets to be liberal, but he said:

'A grave-board will cost at least three dollars.'

The lad looked from his little store of metals to the carpenter and back, realiz d how many weary weeks had passed since the first penny was earned and saved, and sadlenly wailed out:

'Then we can't buy one and ma's grave will get lost.'

But he left the shop with tears of gladness in his eyes, and when he returned yesterday little Bud and Jack were with him, and they had a cart. There was not only a head-board, but for the load of the graves as well, and painter and carpenter had done their work with full hearts, and done it well.

'Ain't it awful nice—nicer than rich folks have?' whispered the children, as the boards were being placed on the cart; 'won't the grave look nice, though, and I won't ma be awful glad?'

Ere this the mother's grave has been marked, and when night comes the three motherless ones will cuddle close together and whisper their gratitude that it cannot be lost to them, even in the storms and drifts of winter.

A Romance among the Reds.

There passed down on the train the other day, says the Winona (Minn.) *Republican*, an aged but smart looking lady, between sixty and seventy years of age, having with her a child about two years old, whose dark complexion unmistakably betoken Indian origin, and naturally excited some curiosity. The lady was communicative, and told a story filled with romance. She was a widow, with an only son living in Connecticut. Her boy grew to be a young man, and, filled with a love of adventure, he forsook the parental roof and came west. His rovings at last led him to Bismark, Dakota territory, where he became interested with Indian traders and finally married the daughter of a chief, the traits of the union being one child. At length, in an engagement wi h hostiles the young man was killed. The sad news in due time reach his mother. She was almost disconsolate in her grief. With true maternal affection she at once resolved to search for her son's child, and, if possible, find in it an object upon which she might bestow her care and motherly love. Forthwith she journeyed to Minnesota. The difficulties in the way formed no barrier to her Northern Pacific railroad brought to her acquaintance a man who had known her son. For fifty dollars he offered to find the squaw who had been her son's wife. Without going into details of the search it is sufficient to say that the tribe of Indians was found, and with it the squaw and the child. When the lady first saw her grand-child she thought she could discern in his features a resemblance to her son, but when the little one was in the midst of a number of Indian children, it was hard to discover much difference. Nevertheless, the grandmother of the dusky little half-breed was bent on having him brought up under the gentle influence of Connecticut civilization, and she quieted her compunctions of bartering in human flesh by the exigencies of the case and the gift of six sacks of flour to the bereaved Indian widow. The old lady departed with her newfound treasure, as happy as a boy with a new toy. She fondled the little Sioux with indescribable affection, and the little chap responded by making his doting grandma buy him all the peaches and pears that the train boy offered. The picture of youth and old age seldom has more romance done up in a couple than was here presented. It will not be surprising one of these days to hear of that cultivated little savage pulling with the Harvard crew.

Live Within Your Means.

Live within your means. This is a good rule for office-holders and business men generally. When the man of moderate income endeavors to live as expensively as a man of wealth his future can be easily written, a little enjoyment, periods of anxiety, burdensome debts, a desperate struggle to keep up appearance, ultimate bankruptcy, and a real flag to notify the neighbors that the sheriff is master of the situation. One half the dishonesty of the present age springs from this foolish practice of imitating the style of others. The man of a thousand a years wants to live equal to one who receives five, he in turn aspires to make as big a show as the one that receives ten, and the receiver of ten labors to keep pace with the one who counts his income among the fifty thousands. Is it any wonder that so many fall in business or forfeit by their misconduct the confidence of friends? We must come back to our old-fashion way of living, and this can be done only by obeying that injunction, "live within your means." Life is altogether too short to destroy its enjoyments by taxing our soul and body to keep up false appearances. Contentment comes with moderation; mental suffering and keen anguish with extravagance. To the young man just starting in life, we say, live within your means. To the man of business pursuing success, we say, live within your means. To the office-holder who hopes through honorable conduct to merit promotion and distinction, we say, live within your means. To all who labor for honor or profit we commend the motto as a safe and sensible one, and one that will pay compound interest in the end. A faithful adherence to by old and young, rich and poor, will restore confidence in business and official circles, and fill the land with happy homes, from which will emanate a spirit of purity essential to the maintenance of public virtue.

Water Drinking.

Dr. Hall was opposed to the immoderate drinking of water. He says: "The longer one puts off drinking in the morning, especally in the summer, the less he will require during the day. If much is drank during the forenoon, the thirst often increases and very unpleasant fullness in observed, in addition to a metallic taste in the mouth. The less a man drinks, the better for him, beyond a moderate amount. The more water a man drinks, the more strength he has to expend in getting rid of it, for all the fluid taken in the system must be carried out, and there is but little nurishment in water, tea, coffee, beer and the like; more strength is expended in carrying them out of the system than they impart to it. The more a man drinks the more he perspires, either by lungs or through the skin; she more he perspires the more carbon is taken from the system, but this corbon is necessary for nutrition, hence the less a man is nourished the less strength he has. Drinking water largely dimishes the strength in two ways, and yet many are under the impression that the more water swallowed the more thoroughly is the system 'washed out.' Thus the less we drink at meals the better for us. If the amount were limited to a single cup of hot tea or hot milk and water at each meal, an immeasurable good would result to all. Many persons have fallen into the practice of drinking several cups of hot tea or coffee at meals, out of mere habit. All such will be greatly benefited by breaking it up at once. It may be very well to drink a little at each meal, and perhaps it will be found that in all cases it is much better to take a single cup of hot tea at each meal than a glass of cold water, however pure."

Patents for Protecting the Dead.

In consequence of the increasing number of graveyard desecrations, says the *Scientific American*, the genius of the inventor has been incited to devise means for their defeat. Among the most recent patents is one for a coffin torpedo, which consists of a canister containing powder, balls and a firing trigger so arranged that on placing the torpedo within the coffin, and finally closing the lid, should any attempt be made to open the coffin the torpedo will be instantly exploded, a noise like thunder ensue and deadly balls will fly in all directions. Had the remains of the late millionaire, Mr. Stewart, been protected by means of this invention the neighborhood in that part of the city where his body rested would have been alarmed, while the robbers themselves would doubtless have suffered sudden death as the penalty of their rash and sacrilegious attempt.

Going Home.

There isn't a day in the year but what one can see just such a parting as yesterday morning took place at the Union Depot. Man and wife had come down to the train which was to bear her to her mother's. The husband had fully persuaded her that her health was failing, and that she ought to go home on a six week's visit. She thought she felt even better than usual, but husbands know better about these things, of course. This wife seemed to have made her preparations quickly, and had not yet said what was on her mind to say. It lacked thirty-five minutes of train time, and as they sat down in the waiting room, she said.

"Now, Henry, the last time I went away——"

'Just wait—I want to see if that's our train," interrupted the husband, as he rose up. Going out he was absent seven minutes. When he returned, she was ready to say:

"I wanted to say to you that the neighbors——"

"Did I give you the check for your trunk? he suddenly inquired.

She found it in her pocket, restored it, and began again:

"Of course I have confidence in you, but——"

"You remember that you must not change cars at the Junction," he said, as he looked at his watch. "When you reach there you will hear men yelling, 'change cars' for this and that place; but you sit right still."

"Haven t I been over the road four different times, and don't I know all the stations? Now, Henry, although there will be no one in the house but you, I have——"

"Did you forget thgt lunch basket?" he excitedly asked, as he looked around and under the seat.

She had it on her lap all the time. As soon as she has assured him of its safety, she said:

"You now come from the store every evening at six, and of course I shall expect——"

"That's our train!" he exclaimed, as he leaped up and grabbed for the satchel.

"Dear me, but I wanted to say to you——" she replied, as she followed him out. He rushed down the depot and put her aboard the coach as fast as possible; but while arranging the seat, she said:

"Now Henry, I am going away for six weeks; but I want you to say that——"

"There goes the bell—I'll be left—let me kiss you—good-by, dear!" and he was out of sight in an instant.

A man across the aisle, who seemed to know how matters stood, looked at his watch, and then called out:

"It lacks just twenty-two minutes of train time!"

The wife rose up and walked to the door, but Henry was clear of the depot, and all she could do was to give one of the hand boxes a kick, and mutter:

"I'll pay him for this—I'll return unexpectedly!"—*Detroit Free Press*

Sunbeams.

The man lacks moral courage who treats when he should retreat.

Hash, like rum, is a hard thing to drive out of a community,

Watching the wind signs for weather is a vane delusion.

There is no poetry in the light fantastic toe that wears a corn.

The best seat in the theatre of war are generally on the front tier.

Titus took Jerusalem A. D. 70; but who in thunder took our umbrella December 10, 1878?

Can you notice a similarity between ten years in the Penitentiary and religion? Both are the result of conviction.

If women are really angels, why don't they fly over a fence instead of making such a fearfully awkward job of climbing?

Yes, it is easy enough for the signal service to predict "rain or snow," but the man who has laid out $75 for a new cutter isn't at all satisfied to find that it is "rain."

A man was shot at in Colt's Station, Ohio, by a highwayman, but the bullet lodged in a book, and he was uninjured. The book was not the Bible that his mother had given him, but a comic song book.

Our Wheeling inventor is getting up a new patent chair for dentists. A concealed spring in it runs a tack up through the seat, and while the patient is howling, and his attention is diverted by the attack below, the tooth is yanked out.

One of the mysteries connected with Oriental life that we fear will never be explained is, why the people of that hot region go barefoot, while they muffle their heads in voluminous folds of cloth.

A man passing through a gateway in the dark ran against a post. "I wish that post was in the lower regions!" was his angry remark. "Better wish it was somewhere else," said a bystander. "You might run against it again."

"There is some dispute as to who is the author of 'Our Baby.'" Is there? Well, if we were that critic, we'd be ashamed to own it. Any man who has a wife like that, ought to have manliness enough to be ashamed to admit it. We know who is the author of our baby.

A school girl of tender years thus writes to a bosom friend: "Dear Suisa—I shan't attend school agin until I Get some new cuffs, collars and Jewelry—dear Mama agrees with me that is to my Dooty to take the shine out of that upstart Mary Jones, and I'll do it if I never learn nothing."

An old man who had been badly hurt in a railroad collision, being advised to sue the company for damages, said, "Well, no, not for damages. I've had enough of them; but I'll just sue 'em for repairs."

The News.

A. B. SMITH, Editor.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1879.

SALUTATORY.

It is with pleasure that we present to the people of Nappanee and vicinity the initial number of THE NAPPANEE NEWS. We have launched out in this enterprise, thinking and feeling that this place really needed—and would support—an independent home journal, for such we shall always strive to make THE NEWS. As sections of a country grow older, get to be more intelligent and become more thickly populated, they demand a press to give utterance to the demands and necessities of their respective localities. An advocate of truth and justice is needed in every community, that is sufficiently large to support one; and Nappanee will not be so blind to her own interests as to not throw every mite toward the building up of an influential and popular journal within her boundaries. This she will do; we feel confident that every citizen will aid all he can. The first year's existence of a journal is always its hardest, and therefore to make a sure success of THE NEWS, it behooves every live citizen to put his shoulder to the wheel and help push it along.

Regarding the policy of THE NEWS, we can only say that it will always maintain a strict independence in politics and religion. Independent but not neutral; which allows us to speak of any wrong which we may; from time to time, observe. Never shall we stoop to low personalties, nor allow communications of such complexion to enter our columns.

Our greatest aim shall be to work for the best interests of Nappanee and vicinity, our Faber will never tire of advancing the interests of this community; and the press with its influence shall work unceasingly to place Nappanee in the front rank of towns, though it is already the livelist town for miles around. We are here to labor for you and respectfully ask a careful consideration. We hope to merit your confidence and patronage.

THIS ISSUE of THE NEWS will find its way into the hand of many persons who are not regular readers, and we desire to call the attention of such to the fact that it is the cheapest weekly paper published in Elkhart county. THE NEWS is $1.00 per year, in advance—50 per cent. cheaper than any other. Indeed, considering the amount of matter published, the money expended for the general character of the paper, THE NEWS is the cheapest paper published in the West.

Copies of to-day's issue can be had at this office in single wrappers for mailing. Price, three cents per copy.

ORDER for 31,000 silver dollars were received at the Treasury on Wednesday last, making 268,000 ordered the present month.

PENNSYLVIANA was visited with sulphur showers on the 16th. In Reading and Allentown sulphur fell to the depth of half an inch.

THE first bill introduced in the Forty-sixth Congress was for a claim by Voorhees for the relief of J. G. Harrison, formerly Assessor of Internal Revenue in Indiana.

WE breathe easier now. The counterfeit $1,000 notes now in circulation can be detected by their "greasy feel. It eats into an editor's salary fearfully to get stuck with four or five such notes in a week.

THE Indians cultivate five times as much land as they did ten years ago, and grow five times as much food. Considering the natural aversions of the red man to labor, and especially to the drudgery of farm life, this is an encouraging record. The time is coming, and is not far in the dim future, when the aboriginals will have to choose between starvation and self support.

A NEWSPAPER'S FUNCTION.

There has grown up a sort of common law of obligation, recognized mutually by the press and the people, by which the people expect that the press, as distributors of useful intelligence, shall inform them, as well what is to be avoided as what is to be sought, as well who is to be suspected as who is to be confided in. And a newspaper, as a garnerer and distributor of news, is a public monitor, and it is its duty to admonish the people against frauds and shams, and impostures and dishonesties. It is to be a beacon as well as a guide; and whenever a public newspaper, through its diversified appliances for the collection and distribution of information, discovers anywhere in public avocation, whether it be a lawyer, or a clergyman, or a physician, a man who, instead of securing the public welfare by honorable methods and practices, simply prowls about in the back yard of his profession, and uses the means and instrumentalities which honorable title gives him to pander to his own lust or avarice, or any other vile passion, and that paper fails to send out some admonitory voice, and sound some signal of warning, it is recreant to every principle of duty and responsibility, and should be stigmatized by the public it pretends to represent and to serve.

JOHN M. MORTON, son of the late Senator Morton, who has been special agent in the charge of government interests in Alaska, and who was dangerously ill at Sitka for several months at the time of his father's death has been appointed Consul at Honalulu, Sandwich Islands.

ONE feature of the Senate committees which will attract national attention is that Withers, of Virginia, who had commanded of the prison pen at Danville, Va., during the war, where Union solders suffered almost as much as at any prison in the South, is made Chairman of the Committee on Pensions, and to him disabled soldiers are to look for relief.

THE beer and liquor statistics of Cincinnati present some astounding facts. It is shown that not less than twenty-five thousand persons in the city live upon the profits of saloons. There are 300,000 people in Cincinnati, each of whom expends on an average $23 20 for beer, and $30 12 for distilled liquors. Here is an aggregate of $15,000,000 spent for beer and liquors alone by the people of one Western city in a single year.

IN the publication of a weekly paper in a village like this, we are not expected to compete with papers from the larger cities. As publisher, our only aim and hope is to make our paper of local interest, while their's find an interested reader as readily in the mechanic of Massachusetts as in the farmer of Minnesota. This will explain in part the seeming wide difference in the subscription price of the two papers. Then, too, from your city paper you get no knowledge of your immediate neighborhood, your own town, your own county. Thus it will be seen, the one has come to be as much a necessity as the other.

SOMETHING like the following is proposed as an additional section of the revised statutes:

"That at all elections it shall not be lawful to use ballots, either written or printed upon tissue paper, nor upon paper that shall be less than five inches in length and three inches in width, of a weight equal to that which is commonly used to print newspapers upon, such ballots to have no distinguishing marks, or designs, of any description whatever, upon the reverse side of them. Ballots which do not correspond with this description shall be rejected, and not counted. All ballots casts at any election shall be handed open and unfolded to the election officer, who shall fold the same in plain view and in presence of the voter, and place it in the ballot-box, and no ballot shall be placed in the ballot-box if it shall be folded when received by the office of election. The person who shall be found guilty of folding two or more ballots together, or who shall attempt to deposit or cause to be deposited more than one ballot, or who shall attempts to deposit or cause to be deposited any ballot not answering the description herein contained, or who shall aid, countenance, or encourage other person or persons to deposit or to count any such ballot, shall be punished by fine not exceeding $1,000 and by imprisonment of not less than one nor more than five years."

THE MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The following is the President's message, transmitted to Congress to-day:

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The failure of the last Congress to make the requisite appropriations for legislative and judicial purposes, for the expenses of the several executive departments of the government, and for the support of the army, has made it necessary to call a session of the Forty-sixth Congress. The estimates of the appropriations needed, which were sent to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury at the opening of last session, are renewed, and are herewith transmitted to both the Senate and House of Representatives. Regretting the existence of the emergency which requires a special session of Congress at a time when it is the judgment of the country that public welfare will be best promoted by permanency in our legislation, and by peace and rest, I command these few necessary measures to your considerate attention.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

Washington, March 18, 1879.

A LITERARY REVOLUTION.

Chambers Cyclopædia of English Literature, in the new ACME EDITION, is meeting with such extraordinary sale that the publishers, to make it still more popular, have further reduced the price. Purchasers ordering before April 30th will get the eight volumes complete, in paper, for $1.75; cloth, $2 50; half morocco, gilt top, $4 00; or bound in four volumes, half morocco, gilt top, $3 20. Sample volumes sent post paid for 30 cents, 45 cents, 65 cents, and 90 cents. This is not only one of the choicest works in the language, but really wonderful in its low price. Specimen pages and terms to clubs will be sent free on request by the publishers, the American Book Exchange, 55 Beekman st., N. Y.

PENN YAN MYSTERY!

The new Illustrated Weekly, Family Newspaper of Leon and Harriet Lewis, 8 pages containing

Stories. Lady Redwoode's Daughter, by Mrs. Harriet Lewis; Count of Monte Cristo, by Alex. Dumas; Sir Allyn's Enemy, by Leon Lewis, etc. Portrait of Dumas and other illustrations.

Voyages and Travels. A Ride Through Islam, Turkey to India: Year in South Africa, by Lady Barker; Six months in the Sandwich Islands; Around the World, by Mrs. Brassey, etc. Illustrated.

Geographical. Vestiges of Atlantis, the Continent that existed 12,000 years ago between Europe and America; the lost Anchor of Columbus; Current Extorations, etc. With Map of Atlantis.

Science. The Religion of the Great Pyramid; Discovery of Vulcan; The Moons of Mars.

History. Lake Dwellings of Switzerland and other parts of Europe; Glimpse of Babylon.

Leading Articles. The real Business of Existence; True Capital and True Riches; the Relations of this Life to the Life to Come; Is an Age of "Miracles" at Hand?

Terms. Single copy, one year, $3; four copies, $10; eight copies, $20; single number 6 cents each. The remitter for Club of eight entitled to a free. Delivered to News-agents and Booksellers in any quantity direct from our office at $4.25 per hundred. Remittances at our risk only in P. O. orders on Penn Yann, or Banker's drafts on New York. Address,

LEON AND HARRIET LEWIS,
Pulishers, *Penn Yan*, N. Y.

As an old colored man and his son stopped in front of an umbrella store, the son saw some umbrellas with covers on them, and questioned his father: "Whas's de covers on them dar umbrellas for?" "Why, chile, 'ems put ober de umbrellas to keep em dry when it rains," was the father's response.

The Proprietors
OF THE
PEOPLE'S DRUG STORE
Desire to return thanks to their
Many Customers,
and friends for their liberal patronage in the past, and hope to merit a continuence of the same in the future, by
KEEPING THEIR STOCK
at all times supplied with
PUR FRESH GOODS
OF
Standard Quality.
And they would announce to everybody that their store will at all times be supplied with a
CHOICE STOCK IN EVERY
DEPARTMENT.
With the best selected stock of
Drugs. Medicines!
OILS, PAINTS,
DYE STUFF,
School Books. Stationary, Sundries, Toilit Soaps, Perfumery, and all the Standard Patent Medicines of the day. The best Cigars and Tobacco. We aim to make the lowest possible cash prices, so as to merit a continuance of that same liberal patronage and trade in the future as in the past.
Respectfully yours,
n1 D. BINKLEY & CO.

THE OLD RELIABLE,
BOOT & SHOE
MAKER.
RICHARD SANDERS.
NEW WORK
made to order, and reparing done on the shorted possible notice, at prices to suit the times.
GIVE ME A CALL
BEFORE GOING ELSEWHERE.
NAPPANEE, INDIANA. n1.

FISHER BROS.
Dealers in and Manufacturers of
BRICK.
NAPPANEE, - - INDIANA.
—o—
We make and keep constantly on Land No. 1 Brick.
WE DEFY
COMPETITION
IN PRICES.
Give us a call before buying elsewhere.
—o—
Brick yard opposite
THE NEW SCHOOL
HOUSE.

Look Here.
JUST RECEIVED A FULL
Assortment of Womens, Childrens & Misses Shoes of various Styles, which I will sell at bottom prices. Those in need of such ware would make money by calling and examining my stock before purchasing elsewhere.
WE CALL SPECIAL ATTENTION
To Ladies fine ware. I also have some substancial ware for farmers. Please call and get prices.
I Also invite Shoemakers to call on me if they want
LEATHER & FINDINGS
And save time and money. I also manufactor to order, garentee all work, and fear no competition, either in quality or workmanship. I have in my employ a superior workman. Repairing done on short notice. Now I invite all to come and see me and be convinced of what I say.
E. McDANNEL.

HARTMAN BROS.
—DEALERS IN—
DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES.
BOOT AND SHOES,
HAT & CAPS, DRESS GOODS, HOSIERY & WHITE GOODS, LACES AND EMBROIDERIES, CORSETS, FANCY GOODS AND NOTIONS OF EVERY DESRIPTION.
Choice Tobaccos and Cigars always on
ONE LOW PRICE TO ALL,
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.
REMEMBER HARTMAN'S CHEAP CASH STORE.
Main Street,
NAPPANEE, INDIANA.

P. C. STAHLY,
—DEALER IN—
FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKER'S,
My rooms may be found on Market Street, opposite the Post office.
A LARGE STOCK OF
GOOD FURNITURE!
Embracing everything usually kept in such stores. I expect to keep an A 1 class of goods and offer them at prices that will convince you that my store is the place to buy.
UNDERTAKING!
A full stock of Coffins, Burial Cases, &c., be kept constantly on and, and having a good hearse, I am prepared to attend all funerals on short notice. Terms as reasonable as any other establishment. I also have in connection a complete stock of
WATCHES, CLOCKS AND JEWELRY

Repairing done on short notice and all work warranted. I am also agent for

All kinds of Sewing Machines, and keep on hand all the different machine needles. Give me a call before buying elsewhere.

The News.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1879.

—School closed yesterday.

—Base ball will soon be in season.

—Read our Kansas letter on fourth page.

—The harvest of maple sugar is now in progress.

—We want a correspondent in every town in the county.

—Send a copy of THE NEWS to your distant friends.

—Kinney, the blacksmith, was taken in for $11. Pretty dear sport.

—Look out for Charpie & Fluegel's advertisement in our next issue.

—All the new styles in Spring Millenery at Miss Callie Holdeman's.

—Chew Jackson's Best Sweet Navy tobacco. 521yl

—If you want to do a good paying business, advertise your goods in the NEWS.

—We publish more reading matter this week than any other paper in the county.

—Save time and money, and buy your clothing of Cheap John, at Nappanee.

—Mr. S. W. Burns presented this office a basket of nice, large apples, for which he has our thanks.

—Dr. J. H. Heatwole, of Middlebury, was married to Miss Ella Lemon, of Richmond, Ind., on Thursday last.

BORN—To the wife of Mr. Iden on Monday morning, March 17th, 1879, a boy; wight 8 pounds

—We are prepared to do all kind of job work on short notice, at prices to correspond with the times.

—The old school-house was sold at public auction on Monday of this week to the Mennonite church for $156.

—The Rev. Mr. Fowler, is holding a series of meetings at the school-house, but as yet no accessions have been made.

—The next term of school will commence in the new building on April 7th, with D. M. Best as principal, and Miss Flora Stauffer as assistant.

—By sale bills printed at this office, we learn that Jordan Becknell will sell his household goods and farming implements on Tuesday, April 1st, 1879.

—Have you been in to examine the large stock of Boots and Shoes at Charpie & Fluegel's? Prices very low.

—Mr. Wm. A. Porter, who was, until recently, engaged in business here for many years, has sold out and removed to Cumberland, Maryland.

—If you are in want of a sale bills, horse bills, or anything in the Job Printing line, give us a call. We will not be out-done by any office in Northern Indiana.

—Hats and Bonnets cheaper than ever at Miss Callie Holdeman's.

—Solomon Rinebolt has 40 acres of timber land for sale at a bargan. For particulars enquire of him or at this office.

—All are invited to attend Sabbath school next Sunday at nine a. m. and assist in electing officers and teachers for the ensueing term.

—Ladies and childrens old straw hats made over at Miss Callie Holdeman's.

—Dr. Brenneman, of Goshen, (Dentist) was in town on Wednesday, looking after the interest of his many patients in this vicinity. The Doctor is a gentleman, and is working up a good practice here.

—Enquiry is why Charpie & Fluegel can sell good goods so cheap. That's no trick; they buy for cash—that's why.

—Rev P. S. Cook will deliver his last sermon for this conference year at the U. B. Church next Sabbath evening, All are invited to attend.

—Dr. Smith's Instant Cure of Pain is superior to any other preparation now in use for the the speedy cure of cholera morbus, dysentery, colic, pain in the stomach, sprains, bruises, rheumatism and neuralgia. Dr. J. S. Smith, proprietor, Nappanee, Ind.

—The Library Magazine for March will be ready on the 28th—not dated in advance, as is the custom—its contents being mainly from the foreign publications of same date, thus giving what is newest in the literary world. $1.00 a year, or 10 cents a number. American Book Exchange, Publishers, N. Y.

NAPPANEE.

Each year, as it glides on well into Eternity, leaves a history, all written, though it may be still a history all the same. And, as time rolls onward, and the years accumulate, scenes and incidents at the same time of little consequence become important links in the great historical chain of a century gone.

Could we of to-day look back and view the spot upon which now stands the pleasant and enterprising village of Nappanee, as it rested quietly in the lap of nature, and could we trace minutely the various changes that have occured since its origin, behold every incident and listen to every tale with which the early settlers were want to beguile the long and lonely hours of their rediousness, it would form a subject of absorbing interest, and one, the perusal of which would require many hours. But it is not our province or purpose to relate the numerous reminisence of the early settlers of Nappanee, but rather to chronicle briefly that of a historical nature, leaving the "romantic" to those where ability augmented with the experience of early years, is greater than our own. Nappanee, like all things else, had a begining; and while we of to-day (many of us at least) can scarcely realize that the town was ever other than we see it now, still the facts exist that less than four years ago, Nappanee was a thing unthought of.

The first building erected was that now occupied by Stoner & Martin as a meat market which was used as a passenger house, and thus from year to year was added some new feature in the business interest, and a greater or less number of new settlers. Numerous additions have been laid out until Nappanee of to-day, covers a large era of ground, and numbers between five and seven hundred inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated in one of finest agricultural districts of the state, and has enjoyed a successful and prosperous career. The streets are regularly laid out—are of fair width—and generally provided with substantial sidewalks. As a business point Nappanee will rank favorably with many towns of much larger population. The shiping of timber is figured in conspiciously in business matters here; there being from four to six car-loads shiped daily. The farm products find a ready market at the highest cash prices. A stroll throughout the place we observe many neat and tastefully constructed dwellings, and a spirit of improvement is everywhere manifested. There is only one church building, owned by the United Brethren in Christ, but it is occupied by three different denominations United Brethren, Methodist, and Mennonite. The school building is one of the largest and best in the county The building was commenced in 1878, and will be completed next month. We will give this a more extended notice at an early day. Nappanee is on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, thus making it a great thoroughfare to the Eastern seaboard.

BUSINESS INTERESTS.

The manufacturing interests of any community, are, or should be, of first importance, so we invite attention to those of Nappanee, commencing with

THE SAW AND PLAINING MILL

of Frank Zinn & Co. This establishment is one of the most important feature in the industries of the place, and one that would do honor to the business interests of the larger towns in this section. The manufacture of bent stuff is one of the principal functions; the enterprise is carried on extensively. A first-class plainer and matcher is also in connection with this establishment. All in all it is equipped and a well conducted enterprise and deserving of the first place in the review of the town.

THE PLAINIG MILL

of Nathan Spencer is also deserving a share of the public notice. This establishment furnishes employment to quite a number of hands and is of the utmost value to the business interests of the place. The manufacture of starch boxes for the Elkhart Starch Company is also an important feature in this establishment.

CHEAP JOHN,

the Clothier, has an institution that is merited for its usefulness. In this place a good and well selected stock of Ready Made Clothing, Hats, Caps, Trunks, Collars and Ties, which are equal to any similar establisment in the county. He was fortunate enough to secure the services of Sam Goldsmith and Mose Comiosky as managers, which accounts for the good reputation this establishment has built up.

P. C. STAHLEY.

Manufacturer and dealer in Furniture of all kinds, has been constantly identified with the town, and has built up an enterprise second to none in importance in the place. Here we observe a good stock of goods, most of which are of home make and of the most reliable character. To say the least it is a valuable additon to our business interests and worthy of increased success.

POST OFFICE BAZAAR

Owned by J. B. Peddycord is quite a convience to the public, and one that should be well supported by the community.

THE SAW MILL

of J. C. Mellinger & Co., is an item of enterprise to the place. The manufacture of hard and soft lumber is one of the principal features. We bespeak for this mill a liberal share of the public patronage.

BINKLEY & CO'S.,

Drug House, our next place of observation, is worthy of more than a passing glance. This establishment was inaugurated March 16th, 1877, and at once assumed a leading place in business matters, and so far as faculties for supplying the public wants is concerned is unexcelled by any house in the county. The principal feature is Drugs, Patent Medicines, Perfumery &c.

ELI MC DANNEL,

of the Boot and Shoe business, has been catering to the public in his capacity for the past few years, and his reputation for good work is firmly established. He makes custom work a specialty, and with his experience is possessed of faculties for doing work unexcelled.

GOOD & SHROCK

are also runing one of the best geared saw mills in the county, and are doing a good paying business, and we know of no better men to deal with than the above named firm.

FRED BRYSON,

General Blacksmith is conducting an enterprse of noteworthy consideration, and, in fact one of the most important features in the industries of the place. He is a practical workman, and whether in general blacksmithing or wagon repairing his facilities are unexcelled. This is a feature of usefulness and its success is a matter of interest to the entire community.

FRED D. RICHMOND

Is the genial "mine host" at the Nappanee Hotel, and we cannot close this sketch without saying of the many good qualities of the establishment. In all essential points the "Nappanee" is a first-class house; the rooms are neatly and comfortably furnished, and the "bill of fare" is reasonable.

VOLKMANN BROTHERS

are manufacturing staves, bed slats, table legs and almost everything else that can be sawed out of wood. They will be found gentlemen in every respect and good fellows to deal with.

CHARPIE & FLUEGEL

Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing, Boots and shoes, Notions, &c are worthy of an extended notice. This house was established about a year ago, and is one of the best in the place. We notice a good and new stock of goods in all the various dements, and especially in the fancy goods and notions, the showing is unusually good. They are also buyers and shippers of grain, having bought 50,000 bushels of wheat this season. We cheerfully commend this establishment to the public.

THE HARDWARE STORE

of C. W. Cowen is in the front rank of our business interests. His stock consists of Hardware, Stoves, Tinware &c. Roofing, Guttering and Spouting are among the principle features and the facilties for doing the same are unexcelled. The Hardware department is complete in every respect.

HARTMAN BROTHERS

are among the leading representatives of the mercantile interests of the place. They have been identified with the town for the past three years, and their stock, which consists of Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Notions, &c., is full and complete, and of a character unexcelled by the best and largest establishment in the county. This firm, in connection with a Mr. Calbeck, of Cromwell, Ind., are buyers and shipers of grain, having purchased about 50,000 bushels of wheat this seaton. It adds greatly to the business interests, and should be well sustained.

THE DRUG AND GROCERY HOUSE

of Seirer Brothers was established two years ago and at once assumed and has ever maintained a leading position in the business affairs of the town. The two principal features of stock is drugs and groceries, and in each department the stock is full and complete, and the faculties in the matters of trade are scarcely inferior to the best establishment of our larger town.

NEXT ON THE LIST

is the stave and heading manufacturing of Nettrour Brothers, which forms an important part in the manufacturing interests, and deserves public patronage.

CARRIAGE SHOP

The leading representative in the Carriage and Wagon business of Nappannee is Frank Zinn & Co. They commenced operations here a year or two ago, and noswithstanding the closeness of the times, succeeded in building up a good and rapidly increasing business.

THE BOOT AND SHOE SHOP

of Richard Sanders is an important link in the business interests of the place, and is one that deserves the public attention. He is a good workman, and all work that is turned out of his shop can be relied upon.

THE RESTAURANT

of S. A. Cleveland is one of the latest improvements and is already doing a business that such an enterprise deserves. We bespeak for him a liberal share of public patronage.

HARNESS SHOP

is the sign over the door of D. Copenhaver's business house, and is one of importance, and one ertitled to an extended notice in this connection. The manufacture of Harness, and the traffic in all classes of goods pertaining to the business, constitutes the various functions of the establishment.

THE RESTAURANTS

of Mr. J. C. Buterbaugh and Daniel Kile, just lately opened up, are doing a good business, and they keep constantly on hand all kinds of goods pertaining to Restaurants in their seasons.

PHYSICIANS

Drs. Julian, Smith Schwartz, Stutman and Miller are the leading physicians in the place, and are men worthy of confidence and reliable.

THE LIVERY STABLE

of P. S. Haro is one of the public conviences; being equiped with first-class rigs, at low prices, and should not be over looked in our review of the place.

THE BRICK YARD

of the Fisher Brothers is an enterprise that deserves an extended notice, and a liberal patronage.

C. M. HOUSOUER.

has a good out-fit for moving buildings and is ready to respond to all calls promptly at reasonably low figures.

THE JEWELRY STORE

of P. C. Stahley is an enterprise that demands the public attention. The principal feature of this establishment is repairing, watches, clocks, jewelry&c.

BURNS & KREIDER

is the firm name of our leading pump manufacturers, who are doing a good business, and diserve a liberal patronage.

THE SHINGLE FACTORY

of Levi Holdeman is also quite an important feature to our manufacturing interests, and is worthy of the public patronage.

CHARLEY FAHLSTROM

is the proprietor of a first-class sorgum mill, which does a good business in its season, and should meet with abundant patronage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We also have a Meat Market, kept by Stoner and Martin; a Millinery Store, owned by Miss Caroline Holdeman, a gunsmith shop, owned by Wm McCleland; a barber shop, operated by Henry Stidhue; one attorney, Mr I. H. Hall; Wm. F. Peddycord, justice of the peace, insurance and collection agent; one saloon, run by David Gentshorn; one temperance billiard hall, owned by Edward Brown. Mr. Iden, the proprietor of the picture gallery, is meeting with success, and his work is all first-class. Jacob Ferrington is one of the best plasterers in the county, and is deserving a liberal share of the public patronage. Jacob Weaver is doing a good, paying business in the wagon manufacture, and should be well supported.

THE NEWS.

Of course all who read this sketch can see another business interest in the NEWS office. This enterprise has just been established, and what success it may have remains yet to be seen. The office is well equipped for doing plain and ornamental job printing, and it is to be hoped that the public will deal liberally in printer's ink.

—Miss Callie Holdeman's Milliner Rooms in Dr. Smith's building, corner Clark and Market streets, Nappanee, Indiana.

—Call and see the new goods and examine prices, at Miss Callie Holdeman's, before Purchasing Elsewhere.

—Camp meeting time is when elderberries are ripe. But Green's August Flower, and Boschees German Syrup, and Hamburger Tropfen and Brust Toe, and Jayne's, Ayer's, Harter's, Pierce's, and all other reliable medicines, can be had at Binkley's at all times of the year.

—Our Soldier readers attention is called to the card of W. C. Beringer & Co., in another column of this paper, all interested should address said firm.

—We would call your attention to the advertisement of Johnston's Great Western Gun Works in another column. Our Pittsburgh Agent endorses Mr. Johnston as being a reliable and honorable business man, and one of the Oldest and Largest Dealers in the United States. Send stamp for his Large and Illustrated Catalogue. In

—Cheap John, at Nappanee, sells clothing cheaper than any other store in Elkhart County, (Public Opinion.)

—Parties having good white-oak timber suitable for tight barrel staves, will find ready sale for it at the highest cash prices, of J. & S. Nettrourer, Nappanee, Indiana. nl

"Young Philosopher" would like to inquire what is "safety" match is, and why so called. A safety match is one in which the young man owns a pair of horses, a three-story house and a seal ring, while the young lady's father is the possessor of $60,000 in goverment bonds and a whole square of brick blocks.

Wanted.

There is a good opening here for a first-class barber; one who is sober and industerious can make a good living. None but sober men need apply.

MANY CITIZENS.

—Nappanee is proud of the beautiful and tasty arranged clothing store. Sam knows who to get things in shape, and also give you a good bargain if you are wanting anything in his line. Please call on him, and try.

Comic Songs.

The three funniest songs now published are entitled:

I'LL TELL YOUR MOTHER.
Price 30 Cents.

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S COMPLAINT, Price 30 Cents.

THE WONDERFUL MUSICIAN, Price 30 Cents.

In order to introduce these side-splitting Comic Songs, we will mail three to any address for 50 cents, in postage stamps.

W. L. THOMPSON & Co,
East Liverpool, O

—Sam. and Mose. invites everybody to call and inspect the new beautiful selected stock of spring clothing, just received. They will take pleasure in showing goods, and post you in prices whether you buy or not.

The Crowning Discovery.

All the "phases" of this phonetic are surpassed in practical benefit to mankind, by the discovery of Allan's Anti-Fat, the great and only known remedy for obesity, or corpulency It produces no weakness or other unpleasant or injurious effect, its action being simply confined to regulating digestion and preventing an undue assimilation of the carbonaceous, or flesh-producing elements of the food For sale by D. Binkley & Co

DEAR SIR:

If you are in want of anything in the way of

Guns Rifles Revolvers

Pistols, Ammunition, Gun Material, Fishing Tackle, or any other Fine Sporting Goods, please send stamp for my large illustrated catalogue and price list. Yours truly, Address JOHNSTON'S GREAT WESTERN GUN WORKS, Pittsburg, Pa. 45:1

PENSION.

Under the new pension law, soldiers wounded or injured, even if but slightly disabled, can obtain pension back from day of discharge One of our firm in Washington to give personal attention to all claims before departments. Do not delay, but write at once. Send stamp for our new soldiers circular. W. C. BERINGER & CO. Pittsburg Pa. Oldest Claim Agency in the United States. 44:1

The Markets.

NAPPANEE.

BUTTER	9 @ 10
EGGS	8 @ 8
LARD	4 @ 5
TALLOW	4 @ 5
WHEAT	85 @ 90
OATS	20 @ 25
CORN	30 @ 35
BEESWAX	20 @ 25
POTATOES	75 @ 75
WHITE BEANS	80 @ 85
	1.25 @ 1.35

CHICAGO.

The following markets are corrected weekly from Wednesday's Chicago dailies, and are perfectly reliable:

BEEVES—			
Choice...	4 25	@	4 75
Good ...	3 75	@	4 20
Medium	3 25	@	3 75
Butchers	2 00	@	2 90
Stock	2 25	@	2 80
HOGS—live—Good	3 30	@	3 85
SHEEP—Choice	3 00	@	4 50
BUTTER—Fancy C	20	@	23
Good	14	@	18
EGGS—Fresh	17	@	17½
WHEAT—No. 2	87	@	83
CORN—No. 2	31	@	32
OATS—No. 2	19	@	20
PORK—Mess	8 85	@	8 87
LARD	6 00	@	6 00

NEW FIRM

—AND—

NEW GOODS

—AT—

SEARER BROS

Are constantly receiving a large and complete stock of

DRUGS AND GROCERIES,

Of all kinds, in the Searer Building, Main St.

Nappanee, Ind

The boys are wide-awake, fully realize the fact that nothing but

LOW PRICES

Will induce people to buy; and to this end they have reduced their prices so as to defy competition.

Their line of

DRUGS, OILS, NOTIONS,

Perfumery

AND

Stationary

Will always be complete, and at bed rock prices. Prescriptions carefully filled night or day. SEARER BROS
11 NAPPANEE, IND.

GENUINE
CRAB ORCHARD SALTS
PREPARED AT THE
CRAB ORCHARD SPRINGS, OF KENTUCKY,
AN EFFECTUAL REMEDY FOR
The Cure of Dyspepsia and Costiveness of the Bowels.

Taken in small doses occasionally during the spring, it is a most excellent purifier of the blood, and as a remedy for Colds a small dose taken at night will give certain relief by morning. For sale by Druggists generally. Price 50 cents per bottle. Manufactured only by the CRAB ORCHARD SPRING COMPANY. If not to be had of your Druggist, send to J. B. WILDER & CO., Louisville, Ky., for a bottle. Sold by Druggists.

Rules for Making Gilt-Edge Butter.

FEEDING

Select your cows with reference to the quantity and richness of the milk produced. The best cows are the cheapest for butter, so get the best you can of whatever breed you select. Give them good pasturage in the summer, and plenty of pure water, with frequent access to salt. In winter, feed sweet, early cut hay, well cured corn fodder, roots, cabbages, etc., and a ration of bran, cornmeal (ground oats) or middlings.

IMPLEMENTS.

Have the best implements, and keep them scrupulously clean, well-scalded, and often exposed to the sweetening influences of the sun. The milk pail and pans should be of the best quality of tin. A reliable thermometer is a necessity to every good dairyman.

MILKING.

The milking should be done quietly and at regular times, and the utmost cleanliness observed. Nothing is tainted quicker than milk by foul odors, and surely at times with nearly all cows there is enough animal odor to it, without adding any more.

SETTING.

Strain the milk slowly into the pans, four to six inches deep. It is an excellent plan to strain the milk into a large can set in cold water, and cool down to 60 degrees before putting into the small pans. The milk must be set in a pure atmosphere at such a temperature as will permit the cream to rise in from thirty to thirty-six hours after setting. In order to do that the room should be kept at about 60 to 65 degrees, and no. alowed to vary much either above or below.

In hot weather keep a large piece of ice in a tub in the room. Cover it with a thick blanket, and, if arranged so as the water will run off, it will keep a long time, and keep the room very uniform.

In cold weather some arrangement for warming the milk room should be adopted.

SKIMMING.

Skim as soon as the milk begins to turn sour. Do not neglect this rule as it is possible to make good butter from cream that is old and sour. When you pour your cream into the cream jar, splash as little as possible. Stir the cream every time you add more to it, and wipe the sides of the pot. Keep the temperature at about sixty degrees and the cream in the pot in the coolest part of the house, covered with a fine gauze netting strained on a hoop, not with a tight cover. If covered too tight, fermentation is often too rapid.

CHURNING.

Churn often, as there is nothing gained by long keeping. Bring the temperature of the cream in the churn to 58°, and not allow it to rise above 64°. Churn early in the morning, while it is cool. First scald the churn, turn the paddles a few times; then pour off, and pour in cold water, and turn the paddles; pour off, and pour in your cream. In churning revolve the paddles with an easy regular motion, not to fast nor too slow.

The butter should come in about forty minutes, a little more or a little less if the temperature of the cream when put in was about 58°, ascertained by the thermometer.

COLORING.

When likely to be deficient in color add a sufficient quantity of the Perfected Butter Color, made by Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt., to keep it up to the June standard.

WORKING AND SALTING.

Then it has "broken" and there is a difficulty to make the butter gather, throw in some cold water and give a few more turns. Some, and I think a majority, of the best butter makers of to-day wash their butter with cold water before removing from the churn. Gather your butter with paddle and lift it out into the tray, press it gently and incline it, and let the butter-milk run off. Work it gentle with the paddle, with a cutting, gentle pressure, but not to mash it; or, better, put into the butter-worker.

Salt it about one ounce to the pound or to the taste of good customers; only with the best salt, and free from lumps and coarseness. Work the butter only so much as to expel the butter milk, but not to work it too dry. This can be done by the use of a weak brine prepared for the purpose. Put the bowl away in a cool place. After standing twelve or twenty-four hours, gently press out with a ladle or machine, the remaining butter milk, and any brine that will flow out with it, care being used not to work it too much. If this is done the butter has lost its grain and becomes salvey, and its keeping qualities are greatly injured.

PACKING

Pack in vessels which will impart no impurities to the butter. Fill within half an inch of the top. Place a thin cloth wholly over the butter. Over that pour cold brine as strong as can be made of hot water and the purest salt, or cover with a layer of fine salt. The whole process of making the butter, from drawing the milk to the placing the butter in packages, should be hurried, as milk, cream and butter are going to decay every moment when exposed to the air, however pure it may be. Such butter is ready to keep or to sell. If to be kept long before selling, surround every package with coarse salt, by placing them in boxes prepared for the purpose. This process keeps the butter cool and hard, and free from sudden changes of air. When all these things are attended to promptly, and with as much uniformity as is under the power of man to control, there will be a near approach to uniformity in color, richness a purity. If the new beginner follows these rules, and keeps doing so, he will soon command the highest figures.

Cleanliness and common sense applied from the beginning to the end are absolutely necessary to insure good butter that will bring the highest price in the market.

Lunatic Asylum Abuses.

Within the past six months a greater number of outrages have been shown to be perpetrated at various lunatic asylums in the United States, than have come to light within the same time during any previous year. This shows that we are not becoming more intelligent and humane in our treatment of the insane as we grow older. The public will be surprised to learn that even in some of our best asylums as, for instance, the Utica State Asylum—numerous contrivances are used for unnecessarily confining the patient. Manacles for the feet and hands, straight-jackets, camisoles, cold shower baths, and, above all, the Utica crib—a demoniac invention whereby the patient is stretched upon his back, incapable of motion—all these things flourish, not only in the Utica Asylum, but in all other asylums in the United States. The system which aids and abets these outrages is simply infernal. Under it thousands of patients who might have been restored to health and happiness have been kept for months and years in torture and then sent to lingering and painful deaths. It is pleasant to learn that an association, headed by Dr. Hammond, is working for the destruction of this intolerable evil. The voices of all sufferers who have thus been spurred to their doom by goads of madness, call for retribution on the villainous scoundrels who have thus abused them.

A Wild Man.

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* reports the recent capture of a singular wild man, who for eighteen years has been ranging up and down the Cumberland Mountains and making himself a terror to the inhabitants. He was captured by a party of men who forced him into a net and secured him after a hard struggle. He is described as being over six feet high, and with his entire body covered with scales, which fall off at stated periods and are renewed like skin of a snake. He has subsisted for years on roots and herbs and on fish, which he would pursue and capture by diving into he water, and which he would devour raw.

Kansas Letter.

The following letter was written for the Wakarusa *Sun* by our old friend, G. W. Steely, but it came to hand too late for their last issue. It will, no doubt, be of interest to our many readers who have friends living in the State:

PEABODY, KAN., March 6th, '79.

ED SUN.—As I was reading in your last issue of the *Sun* a letter from Oregon, I will endeavor to write a few words about Kansas, as a great many people in the Eastern States are very anxious for information. Every mail brings letters of inquiry from persons who think of casting their lot in our State. What the 'morrow of Kansas may be, is hard to estimate, but the present rate of immigration continued for two years longer, will make Kansas nearly one million in population. Immigrants are pouring into Kansas faster than they have ever done before. Every train from the east is loaded down with people, all looking up something to better their financial matters; although a great many of them are going to Colorado, as the Leadville fever is raging very high at present with some of them. There are a great many who believe that the stream of immigration that has been pouring westward the past two years, has well nigh exhausted, and that Kansas can not reasonably hope for very large accessions to her population in the immediate future, but this is a mistaken idea. All the signs of the times indicate that the wonderful immigration to this country the past year is but a forerunner of a greater number soon to follow. Hard times seems still to be the cry all over the East—the supply of workmen is far in excess to the amount of work to be done, and, as a general thing, many men are out of employment, with no immediate prospect of any better state of affairs; therefore they come to the west in hopes of bettering their condition. They know that the change cannot be for the worse, and hope it may be for the better. Thousands who went to Kansas, driven, as we say, by just such fortune as this, now find themselves in comfortable circumstances, independent of employers, with good homes, good surroundings, and slowly but surely growing rich. Those who come this year will fare equally as well, if they are only prudent and exercise the same good judgement in the selection of a good location. Millions of acres of good land can be had by the home seekers, on terms so easy that any man who is able to move to this country and make a claim, can obtain it. The Government land in this locality is all taken up, but about two hundred miles west of here on the A. T. & S. F. R. R., there is still a large quantity, and in other parts of the State there are quantities that can be bought from individual owners at very low prices but those chances are getting scarce, as they begin to realize the value of their land. Still there is a certain class of people here who never do an honest days' work; who loaf around the village store or saloon, exerting all their energies in the attempt to avoid honest labor; declare that Kansas is a failure and demand that those who work shall support them, but, as the chaff is separated from the wheat, so are they blown away in some frontier country, and enterprise, industry and wealth take their place.

We are having very nice weather here at present; doors and windows all open, no fires needed, roads dry and dusty; farmers all busy plowing for their spring crops, and everything is lively, and Hoosiers are getting to be about as thick in this country as grasshoppers were in 1874.

Yours truly,

GEO. W. STEALY.

The average woman is composed of two hundred and forty-three bones, one hundred and sixty nine muscles, twenty-two old newspapers, and two hundred and ten hairpins.

Persons who write anonymous letters for publication should send their foul names to the publishers.

—NEW—

RESTAURANT

AND

BAKERY,

S. A. CLEVELAND, PRO.

I keep constantly on hand a good supply of

BREAD,

PIES,

CAKES,

RUSKS, TOBACCO,

CIGARS and CONFECTIONARY.

If you are in want of a warm or cold lunch, give me a call. Oyster by the can or dish. One door south of Buckley & Co's Drug Store.

S. A. CLEVELAND.

ADVERTISE!

IN

THE NAPPANEE NEWS.

IT WILL PAY

EVERY BUSINESS MAN

—TO—

ADVERTISE IN IT

WITH ITS TWO

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS

COMBINED

GIVES IT THE

Largest Circulation

OF ANY

Paper in the County.

DON'T FAIL TO TRY IT.

THE MODEL PRESS

MODEL is the simplest, easiest running, fastest and most perfect press ever invented, and guaranteed to be Thoroughly Reliable. Any smart boy can manage it, and careless workers worth of work a year. It saves ... Send for circular. Presses as low as $5. Sent on receipt of price. Rotary ... Over 6,000 now in use. ... Awarded at the Paris Exposition, for ease, Economy, &c. of the World. ... Send for circulars, mailed free. Address ... P. DAUGHADAY & CO., Inventors and Manufrs. ... Philadelphia, Pa.

THIS PAPER may be found on file at Geo. P. Rowell & Co's Newspaper Advertising Bureau (10 Spruce St.), where advertising contracts may be made for it in NEW YORK.

PORTABLE AND FLOWER STEPS

EVERYTHING FOR THE

GARDEN

Descriptive Catalogues of Implements sent Free.

PETER HENDERSON & CO.

35 Cortlandt St., New York.

MESSRS. PETER HENDERSON & CO. are well and favorably known to us, and we believe them to be entirely reliable and worthy of confidence.

THE PUBLISHERS OF THE SUN.

AGENTS WANTED FOR THE PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE WORLD

THIS WILL NOT APPEAR AGAIN

A BEAUTIFUL CRAYON DRAWING: THE

ANGELS OF HEAVEN

NEVER OUTSIDE OF THIS PAPER

OUT FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE

From the world renowned painting by the Greatest Master of Art—RAPHAEL, which sold for

$82,000 WILL BE GIVEN AWAY!

THIS picture at once appeals to the tenderest and noblest sympathies of the human heart. The ... beautiful, innocent, baby and pure angels on their flight ... Little Ones ... OUR SAVIOR ... be without this picture. ... Chromo ... Chromo Drawing. ... Dedicated to the Honored Association.

GOD BLESS THE HELPING HANDS

A New Piece of Music, Words, Song and Chorus ... The Christian Helping Hands ... Price ... $5.35.

AS THIS CERTIFICATE OUT, IT IS WORTH $5.35 TO YOU.

THE ANGELS and the Sheet of Music, entitled GOD BLESS THE HELPING HANDS

CONTINENTAL PUBLISHING CO., 4 House St., Cincinnati, O.

CERTIFICATE WORTH $5.35

Gloss Oil and Varnish Company,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Gloss Oil, Varnishes AND Dryers

Office 29 St. Clair-st. Factory 55 & 57 Leonard-st

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

We have had 40 years experience in Varnish making and the most ... We guarantee ... Parties ordering from us will find ... PRICE LIST OF VARNISHES, DRYERS, ETC.

520GWK. Respectfully yours, GLOSS OIL & VARNISH CO.

MAPLE GROVE MILLS

—AT—

LOCKE, IND

Will hereafter run every day, Sunday and Monday excepted, and will say to all, bring along your Grist. Wheat, Buckwheat or any grain you want to have ground.

Satisfaction guaranteed.

Cash paid for wheat.

EBY & TINTSMAN

THE CINCINNATI

$1

WEEKLY STAR

Is the largest and best DOLLAR WEEKLY PAPER printed in the country.

It is the paper that meets the wants of the farm and the fireside more fully than any other; as will be seen by a careful examination of the following facts, and an examination of the paper with any other ... It is ... The Star is handsomely printed on good white paper from clear ... It easily reads, even by a poor light. ... and open print is easy to the eye. ... The Star is free from political bias, and gives all the news with fairness and honesty, so as to enable its readers to form a correct judgment on whatever is passing, and to discuss questions without ... It is ... but a rousing, 8-page ... Over 6,000 now in use. ... Awarded at the Paris Exposition. ... Send for circulars, mailed free. ... P. DAUGHADAY & CO., Inventors and Manufrs. ... Philadelphia, Pa.

THIS PAPER may be found on file at Geo. P. Rowell & Co's Newspaper Advertising Bureau (10 Spruce St.), where advertising contracts may be made for it in NEW YORK.

PORTABLE AND FLOWER STEPS

EVERYTHING FOR THE

GARDEN

Descriptive Catalogues of Implements sent Free.

PETER HENDERSON & CO.

35 Cortlandt St., New York.

MESSRS. PETER HENDERSON & CO. are well and favorably known to us, and we believe them to be entirely reliable and worthy of confidence.

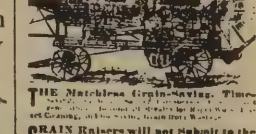
THE PUBLISHERS OF THE SUN.

AGENTS WANTED FOR THE PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE WORLD

Wanted to purchase one case of CATARRH. In each package is found directions for BLACK FOREST OIL CATARRH REMEDY. One dollar package free to those who ... Address, P. H. DOWES & CO., 6 ... Dowes' Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

TRADE MARK. 'VIBRATOR' Reg. March 25, 1879.

THE ORIGINAL & ONLY GENUINE "Vibrator" Threshers, WITH IMPROVED MOUNTED HORSE POWERS, And Steam Thresher Engines. Made only by NICHOLS, SHEPARD & CO., BATTLE CREEK, MICH.



THE Matchless Grain-Saving, Time-... Cleaning, ... from Straw.

GRAIN Raisers will not Submit to the ... Waste ... Machines.

THE ENTIRE Threshing Expenses ... Separator.

NO Revolving Shafts Inside the Separator.

NOT only Vastly Superior for Wheat, ... Grain.

MARVELOUS for Simplicity of Parts.

FOUR Sizes of Separators Made, ranging ... Power.

STEAM Power Threshers a Specialty.

OUR Unrivaled Steam Thresher Engine.

IN Thorough Workmanship, Elegance ... Material.

FOR Particulars, call on our Dealer in ...

Do You DO YOUR OWN Printing?

If not, why? A few dollars will buy an Excelsior Portable Press. Type, Ink, Cards, Circulars, &c., all complete, with which a boy can print ... Send 2 stamps for Catalogue, Testimonials, &c., to KELSEY & CO., West Meriden, Conn.

TRY THE HOP BITTERS

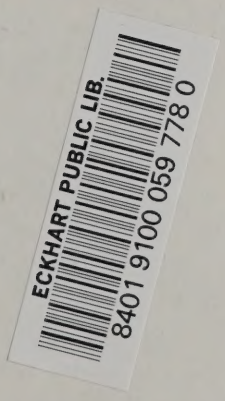
A Medicine, not a Drink.

Contains Hops, Buchu, Mandrake, Dandelion, and the purest and best medicines in the world, and will cure ...

FIFTY CENTS.

All diseases of these ... Liver, Kidneys and Urinary Organs, ... Nervousness, Sleeplessness, ... Hop Bitters. ... Ask your druggist for Hop Bitters and our books, and try the Bitters before you sleep. Take no other. The Hop Bitters Manufacturing Co., Rochester, N. Y.

Eckhart Public Library

603 S. Jackson Street Auburn, IN 46706
Phone: 219-925-2414

Patron is responsible for all
material borrowed.